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FBIS-EEU-95-138 *19 Jul 1995*

CONTENTS

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Claes, Kovacs See Larger Role for OSCE in Bosnia *[Budapest Radio]* 1

ALBANIA

Serreqi, German Envoy Sign Investments Protocol *[Tirana TV]* 2
Berisha Appoints New GS Deputy Chairman *[Tirana TV]* 2

CZECH REPUBLIC

Ministry Gives Details of Republican Leaflets *[Prague Radio]* 3
Republicans Deny Authorship *[Prague Radio]* 3
ODA Official Discusses Situation in Party *[MLADA FRONTA DNES 17 Jul]* 3

SLOVAKIA

SNS Urges Prosecutor To Ban Soros Foundation *[PRAVDA 15 Jul]* 6
Duray: U.S. Sees Slovak Democracy 'Jeopardized' *[SME 15 Jul]* 6
U.S. 'Will Monitor Developments' *[PRAVDA 18 Jul]* 6
Parliamentary Session Ends; Recess Until Aug *[SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA 15 Jul]* 7
Former Minister Views Government 'Complexes' *[NARODNA OBRODA 17 Jul]* 7
DU's Moravcik Reveals File on Pre-1989 Activity *[Editorial Report]* 8
Bavaria's Stoiber Supports JEMO Project *[SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA 15 Jul]* 9

HUNGARY

State Auditor Views Privatization Prospects *[MAGYAR NEMZET 18 Jul]* 10

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Izetbegovic Explains Proposal on Zepa Evacuation *[Sarajevo Radio]* 12
Jeremic: Karadzic-Izetbegovic Made Secret Accord *[Belgrade Radio]* 13
Ukraine on 'Urgent Pullout' of Zepa Peacekeepers *[TANJUG]* 13
Threat to Peacekeepers Seen *[AFP]* 14
Dutch Foreign Minister Wants Zepa Evacuation *[Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT 18 Jul]* 14
Netherlands Minister Expects Gorazde To Fall *[Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT 18 Jul]* 15
Netherlands Minister Pledges Substantial Aid *[Rotterdam ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD 17 Jul]* 15
Danish Battalion Chief Describes Tuzla Conditions *[Copenhagen DET FRI AKTUELT 15 Jul]* 16
Delic Blames Croats for Sarajevo Offensive Failure *[SRNA]* 17
Tuzla Mayor Criticizes UN Over Fall of Srebrenica *[AFP]* 18
Zenica Officials on Arrival of Srebrenica Refugees *[Sarajevo Radio]* 18
Eyewitness Describes Escape From Srebrenica *[Rotterdam ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD 18 Jul]* 18
Bishop to Karadzic: Stop Violence Against Church *[Zagreb Radio]* 20
Serbs Using Chemical Weapons, Aircraft on Bihac *[Sarajevo Radio]* 20
Croats Protest Resettlement of Muslim Refugees *[Mostar Radio]* 21
Karadzic Calls For Gorazde Forces To Surrender *[AFP]* 21
Karadzic Issues Ultimatum to Bosnian Army in Zepa *[AFP]* 22
Karadzic Receives Yugoslav War Crimes Commission *[SRNA]* 22
Koljevic Backs Continued UNPROFOR Presence *[DNEVNIK 18 Jul]* 22
Abdic Forces Urge Izetbegovic Units To Defect *[SRNA]* 22
Serb Official: Srebrenica Returning to 'Normal' *[Belgrade Radio]* 23
Zametica Denies Maltreatment of Srebrenica Muslims *[Banja Luka TV]* 23
Evacuation Done Correctly *[SRNA]* 23
Serb Krajina Delegation Visits Srebrenica *[SRNA]* 24
Serbs Claim Army Fires Shells at Ilijas *[Editorial Report]* 24
Army 5th Corps Continues Attacks in West *[Editorial Report]* 24

CROATIA

Envoy to Belgrade Views Relations With FRY *[NEDJELJNA DALMACIJA 7 Jul]* 26
Bosnian Envoy Claims UN 'Made Deal With Serbs' *[SLOBODNA DALMACIJA 16 Jul]* 28
Portuguese Diplomat's Statements Cause Rift *[Lisbon EXPRESSO 15 Jul]* 31
RSK Report Apportions Blame for Slavonia Loss *[Belgrade Radio]* 32
Krajina Serb Army Protests 5th Corps Attacks *[FONET]* 33
Arkan Denies Interfering With RSK Assembly *[NASA BORBA 18 Jul]* 33
Serbs View Obstacles to Army Operation in Baranja *[Editorial Report]* 33

POLAND

Bartoszewski on FINANCIAL TIMES Interview *[GAZETA WYBORCZA 19 Jul]* 35
Daily Criticizes Anti-Clinton Remarks *[TRYBUNA 19 Jul]* 35
Rightist Candidate Claims Ballot Results False *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 18 Jul]* 36
NIK Audit of Defense Ministry Reveals Losses *[ZYCIE WARSZAWY 18 Jul]* 36

ROMANIA

Melescanu Views Paris Tripartite Talks *[Bucharest Radio]* 38
Spokesman Deplores Eurodeputies' Ignorance *[Bucharest Radio]* 38
PUNR Calls For Urgent Parliament Session *[Bucharest Radio]* 38
Court Refutes Objections to Education Law *[Bucharest Radio]* 39
PRM's Tudor Prepares To Run for Presidency *[EVENIMENTUL ZILEI 14 Jun]* 39

YUGOSLAVIA

Federal

Diplomat on Interest in Cooperation With OSCE *[TANJUG]* 41
Jovanovic Urges Need for 'Political Solution' *[Radio Belgrade]* 41

Serbia

Romania's Nastase Begins Visit, Meets Officials 41
Discusses Bosnia With Milosevic *[Bucharest Radio]* 41
Milosevic Stresses Ties *[TANJUG]* 41
Nastase Supports End to Sanctions *[TANJUG]* 42
Opposition Urges Examination of 'Biased' Media *[Belgrade Radio]* 42

Claes, Kovacs See Larger Role for OSCE in Bosnia

LD1807134495 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1300 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] NATO Secretary General Willy Claes has agreed with Hungarian Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs that unsuccessful efforts by international organizations in the Bosnian crisis seriously undermine confidence in the United Nations and NATO. Therefore, Claes considers it likely that an important role is awaiting the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe [OCSE] in the settlement of the Yugoslav crisis.

Kovacs, who is also the OSCE's chairman in office, has been received by the NATO secretary general in Brussels.

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Serreqi, German Envoy Sign Investments Protocol

AU1907105395 Tirana TVSH Television Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman reports that a protocol on exchanging instruments to ratify an agreement on the encouragement and protection of investments between the Governments of the Republic of Albania and the Federal Republic of Germany was signed today.

The agreement was signed by Albanian Foreign Minister Alfred Serreqi and by Claus Vollers, the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tirana.

By signing this protocol, the protection of investments of one side in the territory of the other will be placed on a judicial basis.

Berisha Appoints New GS Deputy Chairman

AU1907091195 Tirana TVSH Television Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for the Defense Ministry reports that, on the order of Sali Berisha, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania, Major General Baki Shehi and Agim Baruti, deputy chairmen of the Army General Staff [GS], are released from their posts as they are continuing their studies abroad.

Major General Armando Vincani is appointed deputy chief of the Army General Staff. Vincani was born in Shkoder in 1958. After graduating in higher military studies, Vincani has held several command posts, from the lowest to being a commander of the Skenderbey Ground Forces Academy. Vincani has worked with devotion in each post and has contributed to the group for reforming the army. Finally, he graduated from the Command Academy in the Federal Republic of Germany with excellent results.

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Ministry Gives Details of Republican Leaflets

LD1807131595 Prague Radiozurnal Radio Network in Czech 1200 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] It is Sladek's Republicans who stand behind the provocative leaflets accusing the government coalition of preparing the return of Sudeten Germans to Bohemia. This was confirmed by the Interior Ministry spokesman, Jan Subrt, today. This is what he told Czech radio:

[Begin Subrt recording] The investigating officer had to reexamine whether the evidence that ensued from some findings and documents acquired by the criminal investigation service were actually valid. It was necessary to establish that deputy Vik's signature was genuine. I am able to confirm now that this signature is indeed genuine.

The Prague Criminal Investigations Office has established that 1 million leaflets were printed by the Uhrineves printing works. At this moment, it is absolutely clear—and it can be substantiated by evidence—that the whole lot was ordered by Sladek's parliamentary party and that the order was signed by the Republican Party member and deputy Jan Vik. The order bears the date of 6 June this year. A more precise instruction was passed to the printing works on 3 July, and the first batch of leaflets was handed over on 13 July.

According to the Prague police and criminal service, 400,000 of these leaflets were supplied directly from the printing works to the Republican Party headquarters in Prague's sixth district, and party members personally collected 600,000 leaflets directly from the printing works.

Further investigations are now carried out by the Prague Investigations Bureau, which took over from the Criminal Investigations Office. [passage omitted]

Deputy Vik can be charged only after his parliamentary immunity has been lifted. This means that this decision is up to the parliamentary immunity committee. If his parliamentary immunity is not lifted, it will not be possible to charge him. [end recording]

According to Jaroslav Ortman, chairman of the Left Bloc deputies' group, the Mandate and Immunity Committee of the Chamber of Deputies will comment on the affair as early as before the end of the parliament's recess.

Republicans Deny Authorship

LD1807134295 Prague Radiozurnal Radio Network in Czech 1300 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Association for the Republic-Republican Party of Czechoslovakia strongly rejects the accusation of being the author of the leaflet called "Information From the Federal Government for the Sudeten German Landsmannschaft," the chairman of the party's deputies' club, Jan Vik, said today.

According to information granted to Czech radio by the Interior Ministry spokesman, Jan Subrt, the order for the printing of these leaflets bears Jan Vik's signature.

ODA Official Discusses Situation in Party

AU1807162995 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 17 Jul 95 p 7

[Interview with Vladimir Dlouhy, ODA deputy chairman and industry and trade minister, by Jiri Leschtina in Prague; date not given: "The ODA, Together With Its Partners, Is Getting Ready To Declare Election War on the Left Wing"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Prague—While a year ago the Civic Democratic Alliance [ODA] enjoyed the support of 14 percent of voters, its current support hovers around 7 percent and in one survey even dropped below the 5-percent limit required for entering parliament.

Despite this steep drop, the ODA deputy chairman and, according to public opinion surveys, one of the most popular politicians, Vladimir Dlouhy, does not show any signs of concern. "It is not a drop. I am convinced that the Alliance still has solid election potential, and, if the campaign is well conducted, we will come close to 10 percent in the elections," he said.

[Leschtina] Do you believe that at least such a result can be achieved without the Alliance critically evaluating its policy over the past few months, particularly as regards the course of action on the part of the management concerning the 52-million [koruna] ODA debt and Kalvoda's attack on BIS [Security Information Service]?

[Dlouhy] The decline in ODA support certainly can be linked to the problems around its financing and the steps taken by ODA in this context in January and February. It is a question, however, of how much weare

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to return somehow to settle this issue publicly. It also has to do with the willingness within ODA to apply such an approach. The dominant view at the most recent assembly was that ODA must reinforce its positions, above all, by advocating specific policies in those areas about which we know something. That certainly is in order.

[Leschtina] But how can a party recover its trustworthiness if it remains silent about the problems that resulted in their loss of trust in the first place?

[Dlouhy] First of all, I am convinced that, in the long run, we have not lost as much as it seems today. It is possible, however, that some evaluation of the past will take place in the fall.

[Leschtina] Will that not be too late?

[Dlouhy] It will no longer be that important. A political party gains the trust of the voters above all by what it promises them for the future. It came out that most of the ODA members do not believe it is necessary to increase the trustworthiness of the party by publishing some commentary on past aberrations. The best route is to present a positive policy and a constructive program.

[Leschtina] So, you do not subscribe to the view that ODA can only be saved by dismissing the party chairman, who bears political responsibility for the ODA problems?

[Dlouhy] It is up to the ODA members to decide who will head the party. At the latest conference, their delegates reelected Jan Kalvoda as party chairman. I respect this election and intend to continue doing so.

[Leschtina] It is no secret, however, that it was not just a few ODA members who expected Dlouhy, the most popular politician, to be in the post of chairman. Nevertheless, you not only promised at the last central assembly to support Jan Kalvoda but also called on your supporters to do the same. Why?

[Dlouhy] If we pushed the development in ODA toward some fundamental personnel changes, whoever came from this contest a victor would have a party behind him that would not be united. ODA remains, however, an irreplaceable part of the political spectrum. It has coresponsibility for the work so far of the government coalition and will also bear a substantial part of responsibility for the success of this coalition in the next election. This role cannot be played by a split ODA that is not ready for action, generally known for its inability to settle its own internal problems. Some of my personal opinions had to yield to this view on the matter.

[Leschtina] How is ODA irreplaceable? As its support declines, the question emerges of why the citizens should give their votes to the small right-wing ODA, when there is the large right-wing Civic Democratic Party [ODS].

[Dlouhy] I am convinced that ODA has sufficiently defended its right to an independent existence. We have a quite substantial coresponsibility for the course of privatization in this country, in which a lot has been achieved, and we want to finish it as fast as possible. We want to offer our voters an economic policy oriented toward an economic growth, a liberal policy that, however, will not shy away from steps supporting investments or exports. We have greatly contributed to the significant reduction of the income tax for natural persons. We have pushed through our concept of the pension bill that will lead to the separation of pension funds from the state budget. I believe we will attract citizens by our concept of the state, wherein the key word is "enforcement" [vynutitelnost]. The state must be able to force the citizen, natural and legal persons, to respect laws—so the debtor pays his creditor, that whoever is to go bankrupt actually does, and that people trust the bodies of state authority, police and courts.

[Leschtina] To what kind of voters would such a program appeal?

[Dlouhy] Not only the right-wing ones but also many of those undecided. I am even convinced that we can regain for the coalition a part of those critically feeling voters who are leaning away from the government coalition and toward social democracy.

[Leschtina] Does this mean that the right-wing ODA intends to move toward the center?

[Dlouhy] No, it does not mean that. ODA must insist on its right-wing principles. It is necessary, however, to implement a specific policy in their spirit—specific problems must be solved that trouble people. That way, we can address a much broader circle of voters. After all, even the ODS must attempt the same thing—to get votes from the people who are turning toward social democracy.

[Leschtina] Some ODA members claim that, if the Alliance wants to reclaim its position, it has to conduct its election campaign in a sharp confrontation with the ODS.

[Dlouhy] I see it differently. In the first place, we must, together with the coalition and, therefore, also with the ODS, declare an election war on the left wing. At the same time, of course, we will have our own program, in the framework of which we should not even remonstrate against a serious criticism from our coalition partners.

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[Leschtina] Some ODA politicians—and they definitely are not the radical ones—continue to see you as a dangerously ambitious politician for whom ODA is just a lift to power. Would you care to comment?

[Dlouhy] If I longed for power so much, do you believe I would do what I did at the last ODA assembly?

[Leschtina] What would you do if, let us say three months before the election, ODA support were still in the 5-percent danger zone? Would you consider a transfer to another party the way Tomas Jezek did?

[Dlouhy] Whatever support will be like three months before the election, the cards will have been dealt, and the duty of my fellows and me in ODA is to play our hand to the—as I believe—successful end.

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SNS Urges Prosecutor To Ban Soros Foundation

AU1807115895 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 15 Jul 95 p 2

[Report by "ns": "Slovak National Party: Ban Soros Foundation"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Bratislava—The Slovak National Party [SNS] has asked the General Prosecutor's Office to investigate the activity of the Open Society Fund, whose founder is George Soros, a U.S. financier of Hungarian origin. SNS First Deputy Chairwoman Anna Malikova declared that this is a reaction to statements made by George Soros at the economic forum in Crans, Montana. In its submission to the General Prosecutor's Office, the SNS demands that the activity of the Foundation on the territory of Slovakia be banned or suspended. In view of George Soros's statements, the SNS believes that the Foundation is engaged in activities directed against the government and against the Slovak Republic. The aims of this nongovernmental organization are political, even if they are hidden behind humanitarian ideas, Anna Malikova added. [passage omitted]

Duray: U.S. Sees Slovak Democracy 'Jeopardized'

AU1807131995 Bratislava SME in Slovak 15 Jul 95 p 2

[Report by "dos": "Hungarian Coalition Supported in the United States Slovakia's Effort To Join NATO"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bratislava/Washington—The visit by Bela Bugar, chairman of the Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement, Miklos Duray, chairman of the Coexistence Movement, and Laszlo Nagy, chairman of the Hungarian Civic Party, to Washington, paid this week at the invitation of the U.S.-based Hungarian Human Rights Foundation, was devoted chiefly to the issue of NATO's enlargement and to the domestic political situation in Slovakia and the status of the Hungarian minority. As Miklos Duray said in Bratislava after his return, representatives of the U.S. Congress, the State Department, and the National Security Council, with whom the chairmen of the Hungarian Coalition parties met, were very well informed about the situation in Slovakia and had formed a clear-cut view about it. According to Duray's words, U.S. representatives see democracy in Slovakia jeopardized and regard, above all, the conflict between the president and the prime minister as dangerous. While in Washington, the representatives of Hungarian parties were drawing attention to the Slovak Government's confrontational policy against the Hungarian minority. However, at the same time, they assured [their interlocutors] that no threat of a conflict similar to that in the Balkans exists in Central Europe. "We kept stressing that it would be dangerous and undesirable if, in the process of NATO's enlargement, Slovakia drifted into isolation," Miklos Duray said. However, it is necessary to set strict political conditions for the enlargement of NATO and to insist on their fulfillment, in his opinion.

U.S. 'Will Monitor Developments'

AU1907113595 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 18 Jul 95 p 2

[TASR and CTK report: "They Lobbied for the Hungarian Minority's Rights"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bratislava—U.S. senators and congressmen, officials from the U.S. State Department, and close colleagues of the President are very well informed about the domestic political situation in Slovakia. This statement was made yesterday by Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement [MKDH] Chairman Bela Bugar following his return from a week-long visit to Washington.

He was there along with the chairmen of Egyutteles and the Hungarian Civic Party at the invitation of the Hungarian Foundation for Human Rights, which is based in New York. According to Bugar, the visit augmented the U.S. side's information, which is very precise and specific. The signing of the Slovak-Hungarian basic treaty was welcomed in America, but people there were surprised that, while Hungary has ratified it, Slovakia has not yet acceded to this act. All of the U.S. experts with whom the representatives of the Hungarian parties held talks "expressed some concern about what is going on in Slovakia." They do not only perceive the situation as a Slovak domestic political affair, but also consider the issues from the point of view of stability in Europe. "The events in the Balkans shock U.S. politicia...; therefore, they are concerned that a conflict situation may also erupt in Slovakia. We emphasized that what is going on there could not happen in our country," said the MKDH chairman. According to Bugar, the opinions expressed by the politicians whom the Hungarian Coalition's representatives met in the United States on privatization and the situation surrounding the president and the Democratic Union "are very close to those of the Slovak opposition."

Egyutteles Chairman Miklos Duray considers the visit to Washington to have been "really useful." He conceded that, along with his colleagues, he had "lobbied" in the United States for support for the rights of the Hungarian community in Slovakia, which he feels is under threat from the governing administration's encroachments on the structure of ethnic education and culture. "Our U.S. partners assured us that restricting minority rights is unacceptable to the United States," he emphasized.

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According to Duray, it has been said many times in our country that the "president is in league with the Hungarians." Meciar's cabinet is, according to him, trying to win over those Slovaks who now support the president, but, in connection with the Hungarian minority, would be more on the side of the government. "A very serious and dangerous conflict could develop out of this," Duray claims. "We have received a pledge from U.S. officials that they will monitor developments in our country and will use the political options available to them to prevent the obstruction of the democratization process," the minority leader affirmed.

Parliamentary Session Ends; Recess Until Aug

AU1807120195 Bratislava SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA in Slovak 15 Jul 95 pp 1-2

[Article by Dobroslava Krajacicova: "Hungarian Deputies Were Again Attacking Alternative Education; Eighth Session of the National Council of the Slovak Republic Ended With General Debate"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Bratislava—The eighth session of parliament continued yesterday with a debate on government members' written replies to deputies' questions, ideas, and comments raised during the seventh session of the National Council of the Slovak Republic [NRSR]. The plenum also dealt with deputies' new interpellations and questions. The interpellations were made for the most part by opposition deputies whose dissatisfaction was addressed, first and foremost, to the Ministry of Education. The Hungarian deputies were once again playing the dubious card of criticism of alternative education. The eighth NRSR session then ended with a general debate. [passage omitted]

At the proposal of NRSR Chairman Ivan Gasparovic, the NRSR then passed a resolution under which parliament will be in recess from 15 July to 20 August. [passage omitted]

Former Minister Views Government 'Complexes'

AU1807145395 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 17 Jul 95 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Eduard Kukan, former foreign minister, "prepared by" Zita Sujova in Bratislava; date not given: "Eduard Kukan Thinks That the Slovak Government Is Full of Complexes"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bratislava—In connection with the unbecoming responses to the speech made by U.S. businessman George Soros at the World Economic Forum in Crans, Montana, and also with other topical issues that affect our state's foreign policy, we asked Eduard Kukan, the former head of Slovak diplomacy, to assess them.

[NARODNA OBRODA] You have described as undiplomatic the way in which Slovakia submitted its application to the EU: Namely, that Prime Minister Meciar took it upon himself to submit it personally and, moreover, directly to the French president. Why?

[Kukan] Quite simply, no one does it in this way. Official applications are always submitted by the foreign minister to a representative of the country that presides over the EU. Definitely, no one made such a show of it as the Slovak delegation. This is an expression of how much the government suffers from complexes, of its internal nervousness, and of its forced endeavor to prove that it is accepted in the West. Thus, we attract undesirable attention and cause those who understand this to grimace indulgently. This is not heroism, but an inappropriate and unnatural course of action.

[NARODNA OBRODA] What do you think of George Soros's speech in Crans, Montana, which attracted such attention among our governing coalition?

[Kukan] In the case of such speeches, it is always necessary to read through the original text. The anti-Soros campaign that the governing coalition has unleashed in our country reminds me of the old habit of the former regime when it took a sentence or paragraph out of context and then turned it into a scandal. Given a careful perusal of the appropriate paragraph, everyone will ascertain that it does not contain the expressions or contexts that the HZDS [Movement for a Democratic Slovakia] and its coalition satellites have come up with.

[NARODNA OBRODA] What do you think of the HZDS's intention to declare George Soros a persona non grata?

[Kukan] Absolute stupidity. At first, I thought that it was a gag or a joke. But, if not, then it will be necessary to increase at least tenfold that 150 million korunas for the agency intended to create a good image of Slovakia abroad. I would have understood this reaction if the speech had been made by a foreign minister.... But, Soros is a private individual. Indeed, I do not recall anyone being declared a persona non grata for his views in democratic countries. This is a manifestation of political immaturity and pettiness.

[NARODNA OBRODA] In your opinion, how will the current radical changes in privatization and the other steps by which the government has deviated from its policy statement be viewed abroad?

[Kukan] Negatively. Even some of the countries that are, shall we say, constructively disposed toward Slovakia literally feel taken by surprise and, if they had previously adopted a wait-and-see attitude, now they are frozen in this position. I would like to emphasize

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that issues such as the completion of economic transformation, and especially privatization, are being monitored very closely and carefully and such an absolute fundamental change will cause even more confusion for foreign investors.

[NARODNA OBRODA] Is it normal in European countries that the representatives of the governing parties put forward one view in the government and another in political life, while these views contradict each other?

[Kukan] No; this is a Slovak novelty. We, in Slovakia, do not have too many original things, but this is one of them. And, I would not be too proud of it. There are political parties in other countries that promote very actively their disagreement with joining the EU, but these are opposition parties and are not in the government. In our country, we have two governing coalition parties that negate or, at least, cast doubt on Slovakia's integrative efforts. Such a course of action is very irresponsible and I think that the main governing party should react to this.

[NARODNA OBRODA] Do you think that the government's Slovak Information Agency will help to improve Slovakia's image abroad?

[Kukan] I could accept it as an idea per se, but real experts, who would prepare for publication information of a high professional standard, would have to be in it. But, an image cannot be created by an agency. An image is created by the real execution of policy, by taking certain measures.... If an agency is supposed to explain to the world, if you pardon the expression, the nonsenses that are being passed by this parliament or the nonsensical steps that the government takes, then I wish it all the best, but its work will be absolutely pointless. There have also been reports that our representative offices abroad have been given the task of responding to every negative article in the newspapers. Excuse me, but this is ridiculous.

[NARODNA OBRODA] What is your assessment of the government's foreign policy, not its theoretical pronouncements, but its actual performance?

[Kukan] No matter what we think, the fact is that important steps, such as submitting our official application to become a full-fledged member of the EU, the continuing preparations for this step, and other things, are being carried out. The way in which this is being done could do with being discussed; it is not always the most appropriate way. But, the fundamental line, the number one priority, integration into the EU, is being pursued.

[NARODNA OBRODA] Irreversibly?

[Kukan] I am an optimist, and I believe that such a reversal will not occur in Slovakia. I am willing to believe that, even if the government had the urge to reverse development, it would simply not be able to. As far as foreign policy per se is concerned, it seems to me to be forced, inexpressive, and artificial. The basic tasks ensuing from membership in various multilateral organizations are, admittedly, being fulfilled, but there is still a great deal of amateurism here.

DU's Moravcik Reveals File on Pre-1989 Activity

AU1807162195

[FBIS Editorial Report] Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak on 13 and 17 July publishes items on the plans of the Special Parliamentary Body (OKO) for Supervising the Slovak Information Service (SIS) to investigate the activity of Jozef Moravcik, chairman of the Democratic Union (DU) and former prime minister, prior to 1989 when he was chairman of the Club of the Leninist Spark and on Jozef Moravcik's reaction to the upcoming inquiry.

Bratislava [illegible]RODNA OBRODA in Slovak on 13 July on page [illegible]ries a 300-word report on an interview given by OKO Chairman Igor Urban to Zita Sujova entitled "Igor Urban: OKO Will Start Investigating the Activity of the Leninist Spark and of the Federal Security and Information Service." In the interview, the place and date of which are not given, Urban announces that, based on the National Council of the Slovak Republic (NRSR) resolution of 8 May 1995, OKO "will start investigating the activity of the Club of the Leninist Spark (whose members included Jozef Moravcik and Igor Cibula, former chief of the Counterintelligence Service) in the years 1987-90, as well as the activity of the Federal Security and Information Service (FIS) in Slovakia from 21 January 1991 to 1 January 1993 when the FIS was supposedly liquidating material on the shadowing of political parties and personalities." Urban does not specify when the investigation would start and how long it is expected to last.

Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak on 17 July on pages 1 and 2 carries a 1,100-word report by "suj" entitled "Jozef Moravcik Partially Raised the Curtain Over the Scarabaeus File." The report provides the "full text" of a speech delivered by DU Chairman Jozef Moravcik in the course of the 14 July meeting of the NRSR, in which he read out portions from the "Scarabaeus" file that had been compiled by the State Security, the now defunct communist-era secret police, and which concerned the activity of the Club of the Leninist Spark, of which Jozef Moravcik had been chairman prior to 1989. In an introduction, the NARODNA OBRODA reporter says that the newspaper

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decided to publish Moravcik's speech "in view of the fact that Prime Minister Meciar has repeatedly publicly accused members of the Club of the Leninist Spark of having served the pre-1989 regime." The portions of the Scarabaeus file reproduced by NARODNA OBRODA reveal that the monthly meetings of the Club of the Leninist Spark had been under the State Security's surveillance and that the State Security considered the organization "illegal" and assessed its reports about the situation in pre-1989 Slovakia as "tendentious and slanderous about our party and state representatives." Moravcik also quotes a passage from the Scarabaeus file, according to which materials on the Club of the Leninist Spark were to be placed in a special archive, among files dealing with "hostile persons."

On the same day, on page 2, Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak carries a 300-word report on an interview given by DU Chairman Jozef Moravcik to Zita Sujova entitled "Jozef Moravcik: Investigation of the Scarabaeus File Is Aimed at Political Discreditation." In the interview, the place and date of which are not given, Moravcik voices the suspicion that the intention of the upcoming investigation into the activity of the Club of the Leninist Spark is to "politically discredit members of the club." He also expresses doubts about the objectivity of the investigation, in view of the fact that "OKO is not so much a supervisory body of parliament as one of the chairman of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia, whose task is to prove some suspicions." The interviewer points out that Vladimir Meciar had accused Jozef Moravcik of "collaboration with the socialist regime already last year," when the DU chairman was prime minister, and she wonders why Moravcik did not disclose the contents of the Scarabaeus file then. Moravcik replies: "I have made it public only now because I have to defend myself after the affair has been broadly publicized. It is the public's right to learn what the Club of the Leninist Spark was all about."

Bavaria's Stoiber Supports JEMO Project

AU1807161595 Bratislava SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA in Slovak 15 Jul 95 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Members of the Bavarian Parliament Are Satisfied With Cooperation"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Bratislava—Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar met in Bratislava yesterday with Bavarian Minister President Edmund Stoiber. [passage omitted] In connection with his visit to Slovakia, Stoiber said that his country is interested in ensuring that the Slovak Republic becomes a member of the European Union. In connection with the Maastricht Agreement II, he expressed his conviction that its contents can be altered so that membership in the EU for the countries of Central and East Europe does not have to be pushed far beyond the year 2000. Regarding the possibility of support from the Bavarian side in completing the Mochovce nuclear power plant [JEMO], Stoiber said that his country is interested in nuclear power under the conditions of optimum safety. Inasmuch as the safety of JEMO is also important for Slovakia's membership in the EU, Prime Minister Meciar informed him that it would be desirable for German and French firms to take part in this project to a decisive extent. Stoiber assured his Slovak colleague that the Bavarian Government will endeavor to revise the decision made by the Bayernwerk company not to take part in JEMO's completion.

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State Auditor Views Privatization Prospects

AU1807140495 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 18 Jul 95 p 10

[Interview with Istvan Hagelmayer, chairman of the State Auditor General's Office, by Emoke Magyar; place and date not given: "Electricity Industry Privatization: What Will Be After Privatization?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Magyar] It seems that the State Auditor General's Office [ASZ] has stirred up a nest of hornets with its report on the privatization of the electricity industry. Emotions abound around the privatization issue: Once the threat of strike had subsided, the minister was fired.... In the meantime, the issue seems to be marking time. Mr. Chairman, in your view, what is the reason behind all this?

[Hagelmayer] It is well known that the electricity industry is one of the major elements of our country's infrastructure. Its technical level, structure, operation, and, last but not least, the price of its product, namely the electricity, are essential for economic growth, competitiveness, and the living conditions of the population. This industrial sector valued at about 600 billion forints [Ft] represents the largest property being privatized in Hungary today. It is understandable that the fate of this sector is a public matter in the widest sense of the word. It is also natural that the preparation of planned privatization is often accompanied by intense debates burdened with emotional elements. Listening to these debates, it seems that we are talking here about more than just the evaluation of a transaction. The debates concentrate on the confrontation between the supporters of the "third way" or national development, and those who claim that "we will only be able to join Europe when everything belongs to the West." And the daily problem of keeping the budget balanced drives all this into the background. Undoubtedly, these differences in approach have also contributed to delaying the preparations for years and the uncertainty continues to be considerable today.

[Magyar] It is a well known fact that the ASZ is a nonpolitical organization. However, you have been speaking now about a lot of things that are strong political issues. Privatization decisions are connected with economic policy concepts. Do you think that the ASZ overstepped its authority this time?

[Hagelmayer] I am convinced that it did not. It is our constitutional obligation to help protect and use state property and follow its fate with attention. The demand has emerged as a criticism in recent years not only to deal with privatization issues within the framework of the annual examination of the State Property Agency and State Property Management Corporation but to help before vital decisions, by making public our experiences connected with the preparation of transactions. The report on the electricity industry is the first analysis connected to a privatization issue currently in preparation, and it presented the assertion of state ownership rights and obligations, and the state of preparation of the planned privatization. We did not want to evaluate privatization as a goal in itself, but we regarded as our obligation to publish our experiences and show the risks involved.

[Magyar] What are these risks?

[Hagelmayer] The functioning of the electricity system is basically a matter of technical development, and price and privatization measures should be subordinated to this matter, but its role is so vital that industrial policy and even security policy factors also play a considerable role in the decisions. Therefore, privatization here is not only a transaction matter. This industrial sector is connected to industrial policy and employment policy by complex technical, economic, and regulation factors and, therefore, its privatization requires a complex strategic concept. Energy prices deeply affect the living conditions of the population. Given the limitations of domestic private capital today, it is obvious that only a foreigner can be an adequate investor here.

[Magyar] Your staff have thoroughly examined the preparation of privatization. Tell us about the main problems.

[Hagelmayer] We must focus here on the shortcomings in managing multifaceted problems so far. Those responsible only dealt with a particular area of this sector, without paying sufficient attention to the connections. While in 1994, without adequate justification, an income of Ft125 billion was stipulated from the privatization of this sector, but the end of the year showed what the government really wanted and what main ownership percentage and marketing pace the government regards as requirements for possible privatization. A technically possible system of marketing conditions has already emerged, but the essence of this privatization is still missing.

[Magyar] What is the essence: money, modernity, competitiveness, or perhaps the identity of the owners?

[Hagelmayer] All these are also important, but none of them is vital separately. In very simple terms, I can say that the essence of all this is what will come after privatization. We hardly know anything about this. There is practically no advancement in clarifying the processes that take place in the course of privatization and the effects of this privatization on the competitiveness of Hungarian industry, electricity

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prices, inflation, the living standard of the population, electricity consumption, the safety of supplies, etc. The privatization experience so far proves that the buyers assert the uncertainty appearing as their own risk and the seller, the state, asserts its "lack of funds" in the purchasing price and in other guarantees mostly successfully. We must now bear the consequences of failing to prepare genuine analyses of the effects of the change in the ownership structure. This, in itself, is a tremendous risk that should not be concealed.

[Magyar] What is the reason for the great haste in preparing the sale, while such deficiencies exist?

[Hagelmayer] The daily, pressing problem of financial balance is the decisive factor. Unfortunately, this has to be recognized. If you like, there is a "situation." In most recent times, preparation of the deal has been noticeably speeded up. In the current state of preparations for the transactions, which are laden with problems, we can still hope for achieving income of Ft75 billion, which is a much more cautious goal than in the previous year, targeted for 1995 from the partial privatization of the electricity industry. However, to achieve this, the government's current debates over the concepts must be ended, all the amendments to the law necessary for privatization have to be accepted, and all future steps have to be organized in coordination and at a rather tight schedule, without allowing for delays. We cannot have a debate over the price regulating mechanism and the, partly still missing, documents on development. If these are not adhered to, the government will have to forgo this year's income from the partial sale of the electricity industry—and this will also cripple the supplementary budget.

[Magyar] From what you have said, one can conclude that only we consumers are bearing the risk. The electricity bills are increasing again and who knows by how much.

[Hagelmayer] The increase in electricity prices is not directly connected with the planned privatization. At the most, only to the extent that the new owners cannot be expected to be loyal to the country's economic and social goals rather than their own interests. This is why the operational conditions and mechanism of the electricity system have to be formed in such a way as to facilitate the state's strategic and social interests to prevail even under the new ownership structure. Europe does not have a general model on whether the sections of property should be put into private ownership with the privatization of the electricity industry. Today in Hungary, the speed of sale is being dictated by the requirement to increase the budget revenue and balance the current account, rather than by the interests of the particular industry's development.

[Magyar] Can we interpret this as meaning that the ASZ does not agree with the privatization?

[Hagelmayer] No, not at all; privatization is unavoidable. As I have said, it is not our job to criticize economic policy decisions directly. However, the dangers, the hidden "mines" have to be indicated. To reduce the risks, the privatization ideas affecting the decisive section of this industry have to be analyzed: Do they contain adequate guarantees on the service's price and of security? We have coordinated the draft report several times with the government's relevant experts. They have already taken steps to solve several problems that we indicated to them. Without any references, some of our suggestions can be seen in the more recently prepared documents. Although many problems and uncertainties about the concept still exist, for example, the fact that the often mentioned energy price and the development requirements are undefined, we can see that the preparation of the privatization has been speeded up. We hope that the marking of time is finished.

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Izetbegovic Explains Proposal on Zepa Evacuation

AU1807201195 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 18 Jul 95

[Interview with Alija Izetbegovic, president of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, by Mujo Delibegovic; place and date not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Delibegovic] Mr. President: Last night your cabinet released a statement that you and General Smith discussed the evacuation of the elderly, the injured, and other persons from Zepa. Could you please explain why you discussed this?

[Izetbegovic] You see, we are burdened by the case of Srebrenica. We would not like there to be no help with a small [words indistinct] lest we have again the Srebrenica situation with the suffering of women and children. Above all, we assessed that the evacuation of old, wounded, and sick people from Zepa [words indistinct] and the encirclement that has lasted for a long time, that this is a great burden for the soldiers there and that by [words indistinct] we would lift a great problem and a great concern from their shoulders. It is for that reason [words indistinct]. I believe that this accords with the wishes of the people of Zepa in this respect. Therefore, this was the main motif. We would like to relocate even women and children in their entirety, if we can, and not only old and sick people.

[Delibegovic] Is this, nevertheless, not a form of ethnic cleansing?

[Izetbegovic] Yes, it is. However, there are worse things than ethnic cleansing, which is that is what we have now. According to my information about what is happening to us, the Chetnik killing is worse than the Chetnik ethnic cleansing. Apart from this cleansing, if we preserve the people, we will return to Srebrenica, Zvornik, Bijeljina, and Foca. If we save the people. We must save the people. This is our goal because we wish and are resolved to return. Therefore, we believe that in the current situation we must not allow the tragedy to repeat itself.

[Delibegovic] Within this context, I would like to ask you about numerous speculations, that is, official statements that the refugees, that is, the exiled persons from Srebrenica should be accommodated in thi rd countries?

[Izetbegovic] Yes, I believe that [changes thought]. As you can see, I believe nobody ever seriously [word indistinct]. I have heard that there was a sort of [word indistinct] in this direction. On the contrary, we must bring people back. You know that (?we are doing everything to) bring people back from foreign countries. We consider it a great success if we manage to return some 200 to 300 people. As you can see, speaking about Srebrenica, a great number of households have given temporary accommodation to the refugees, and I believe that great efforts were made in this direction and great results achieved with the accomodation of some 20,000 or 25,000 people there. There is no need (?for us to do so). There is a place for everybody in Bosnia. As I have said, (?we need our people) because we plan to return to our homes.

[Delibegovic] Srebrenica was an easy prey [words indistinct]. Ultimately, all analysts, military, and other experts at home and abroad say so?

[Izetbegovic] Yes, in a sense it was. Primarily, you must keep in mind that Srebrenica was a demilitarized zone, that there was no organized army there. There were many armed people; however, there was no organized army there. A portion of the arms was handed over two years ago. However, there is one fact that the public might or might not know, namely, that despite the Chetnik [word indistinct] attempts to capture a great portion of the male population capable of military service, they did not succeed in it. The biggest number of them nevertheless managed to pull out. True enough, they endured horrible suffering walking 70 to 80 km to the lines), however, a big number, the vast majority of them, nevertheless broke through despite everything.

There were definitely also mistakes that the military and the civilian authorities made as regards Srebrenica. I know some of these mistakes, which [words indistinct] for which we paid in the case of Srebrenica. However, we will investigate everything that happened after the war.

[Delibegovic] A classic genocide is actually under way in our country. The world is silently observing this, although constitutions and the UN Charter stipulate that they are bound to prevent genocide. Why do they observe [word indistinct] like this?

[Izetbegovic] You see, I will be very open as regards [words indistinct] and also very direct. It is because we are Muslims. Some centers of power in the world do not want [word indistinct] Muslim people, even though we are European Muslims, they do not wish to see this, and even though this is not a purely Muslim state, but a joint state [word indistinct], it is nevertheless a Muslim state, too, and they do not wish, they cannot accept, that the Muslims would finally have a state they would consider their own). [Words indistinct] chetniks and they are pretending that they do not see what is going on, they are not keeping their promises and honoring the resolutions that they themselves passed, inventing various reasons for not carrying out their obligations

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specified in charters [words indistinct]. Therefore, if you ask me why, because we are Muslims.

I would like to draw attention to this fact—let the Muslims worldwide know now that this is the true reason. I would also like to draw attention not only to the Muslim leaders in the world today, to kings and presidents, but also to the ordinary people and the young people, to watch carefully what is going on and open the archives one day to examine from a distance what is currently the invisible side, everything that took place at these, allegedly, important meetings at which a reason was always found to prolong this agony.

Naturally, I cannot accuse the West for this. The ordinary people in the West mostly [word indistinct] and truly do not understand some of their leaders who are playing a very tragic role regarding the Muslim people. However, we will, God willing, win.

[Delibegovic] Naturally, thank you Mr. Izetbegovic.

Jeremic: Karadzic-Izetbegovic Made Secret Accord

LD1807205895 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1308 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Belgrade, 18 Jul (TANJUG)—Tomislav Jeremic, a federal deputy of the Serb Renewal Movement [SPO], claimed today that there is a secret agreement on reciprocal conquest of territory in Bosnia between Radovan Karadzic and Alija Izetbegovic.

"There is a secret agreement on staged offensives in which the Serbs would capture certain Muslim areas and the Muslims would capture Serb territories," Jeremic told an SPO press conference.

He said that, under the secret Karadzic-Izetbegovic agreement, after the fall of all Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia the Muslims would launch "a surprise and fierce offensive" and capture Ozren, or most of it, as well as parts of Serb Sarajevo.

Jeremic went on to say that after this and after tens of thousands of people had become casualties or expellees, it would be announced that all sides in Bosnia accept the Contact Group plan as a basis for negotiations.

"Is it not possible to conduct this bartering at the negotiating table, without blood and the suffering of tens of thousands of people?" Jeremic asked.

According to him, the international community is not weak nor is it confused by what is happening but "it seems that it is firmly stuck in this trade with 'humanitarian ethnic cleansing.'" [passage omitted]

Ukraine on 'Urgent Pullout' of Zepa Peacekeepers

LD1907114695 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1105 GMT 19 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Belgrade, July 19 (TANJUG)—U.N. Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia Yasushi Akashi said in Brussels on Wednesday that the confrontation line in the Muslim enclave of Zepa, eastern Bosnia, remained stable but that the situation continued to be bad.

Akashi, who was speaking before a meeting with NATO ambassadors on the situation in eastern Bosnia, said that the Ukrainian peacekeepers still held one observer post in Zepa but that the confrontation line was stable, foreign news agencies said.

Spokesman for U.N. peacekeeping operations Fred Eckhard confirmed on Tuesday [18 July] that the Muslim forces in Zepa had disarmed the Ukrainian batallion with the U.N. Protection Force in Bosnia (UNPROFOR) and confiscated all its equipment.

The Muslim forces have threatened to kill the U.N. peacekeepers unless the United Nations call for NATO air strikes against Bosnian Serb positions around the Muslim enclave.

In the meantime, Ukraine has demanded the United Nations to approve an urgent pullout of the Ukrainian contingent deployed in the Muslim enclaves of Gorazde and Zepa.

Spokesman for the Ukrainian Government Vladimir Yelchenko said that the Ukrainian peacekeepers in the two enclaves had been disarmed by the Bosnian Muslims and that there was nothing left for them to do.

Asked about a possible pullout of peacekeepers from Zepa, Akashi said that UNPROFOR was reviewing such plans.

At the meeting in Brussels, Akashi will submit a report on the situation in Bosnia. 'This will be another chance for us to consolidate the cooperation between ourselves and NATO,' Akashi said.

Akashi and UNPROFOR commander in the former Yugoslavia Gen. Bernard Janvier are expected to meet with NATO Secretary-General Willy Claes.

Western news agencies reported that the situation in Zepa remained unchanged although Ukrainian U.N. peacekeepers had abandoned their last functioning observation post overnight.

REUTERS quoted U.N. Protection Force spokesman in Sarajevo Gary Coward as saying that during their withdrawal, the Ukrainian peacekeepers had distroyed

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part of their materiel, including an armoured personnel carrier.

Coward said that 79 Ukrainian peacekeepers were virtually trapped between Bosnian Serb troops advancing toward Zepa and Muslim soldiers threatening to use them as a human shield.

Threat to Peacekeepers Seen

AU1807154595 Paris AFP in English 1535 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sarajevo, July 18 (AFP)—Bosnian government forces in the Zepa enclave threatened Tuesday to use Ukrainian peacekeepers as human shields if NATO planes do not act to stop advancing Serb forces, UN officials said Tuesday.

"Bosnian Army soldiers have surrounded the Ukrainian base in Zepa town and have threatened to use the peacekeepers as human shields if there is no NATO action," UN spokeswoman Myriam Sochacki said.

But in a countermove, Bosnian Serb forces told the peacekeepers they will target the base if there is any NATO action.

UN officials said initial reports indicate that Bosnian Serb troops have moved closer to the town after launching an intensive bombardment of Zepa town Tuesday morning which died down later.

"Early reports suggest the Serbs have moved in the direction of the town," Sochacki said.

The latest developments come at a time of increasing desperation among the Bosnian population in Zepa who know the peacekeepers themselves are powerless to act in their defence. Though they are tasked to deter attacks against the UN safe area under a Security Council resolution, the peacekeepers argue they were never given the resources to implement this policy.

UN officials said the only means for deterring attacks against the UN safe area is the use of airpower employing warplanes from the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation based in Italy and on aircraft carriers in the Adriatic. However, they openly admit such a move would have "limited utility" and probably not stop a concerted Serb move on the town.

UN officials would not say if this move would stop the peacekeepers calling in NATO airpower to defend the enclave.

"We have to take into consideration the threat against (these men). This simply highlights the ambiguities of peacekeeping in the middle of a war when each party is taking advantage of our position," Sochacki said. She added the UN mission would try to apply pressure on both parties to "excercise maximum restraint."

The Serb move compounds the threat already made to nine Ukrainian peacekeepers manning a post just outside the enclave. They have been told to expect attacks from Serb units surrounding the post if NATO planes fly anywhere near the enclave.

Dutch Foreign Minister Wants Zepa Evacuation

BR1807153195 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 18 Jul 95 p 1

[Report by Jos Klaassen: "Van Mierlo Calls For Evacuation of Citizens From Zepa"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Brussels—Last Monday, The Netherlands suggested to the European Union that the United Nations would evacuate the Muslims from the "undefendable" enclave of Zepa. On behalf of the [European] Union, EU mediator Carl Bildt will now examine whether the idea is feasible.

During last Monday's meeting of the Council of Ministers, Foreign Minister Hans van Mierlo was tormented by serious hesitation. Indeed, the plan with which he surprised his European colleagues, comes down to the UN helping the Bosnian Serbs with their "ethnic cleansing."

However, Van Mierlo wants to keep the "horrors", which were perpetrated by the Bosnian Serbs during the "ethnic cleansings" in Srebrenica, from happening in Zepa. Says Van Mierlo: "What choice does one have, when one must choose between ethnic cleansings and ethnic massacres?"

In addition the international community seems convinced that Zepa, an enclave from whose center the Serbs are presently one kilometer away, is undefendable. [passage omitted]

During the conquest and evacuation of Srebrenica, the Bosnian Serbs left a trail of violations of human rights. Van Mierlo refused to elaborate on the issue in Brussels (yet): "Details will be revealed in the next few days."

On Monday Van Mierlo told his European colleagues that the events in Srebrenica make the [European] Union and the UN responsible for avoiding a recurrence of the "horrors." The Netherlands and Belgium have already offered to help with the evacuation of the Muslims, partly with vehicles.

Van Mierlo denies that the fact that Zepa is given up means that the UN are running away from the Bosnian Serbs. Only "undefendable" enclaves should be given up. Says Van Mierlo: "That is why one should examine

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whether the enclave of Gorazde can still be defended militarily." [passage omitted]

A decision on Gorazde is expected by Friday, when the international Contact Group for former Yugoslavia will meet in London. This meeting will also be attended by the countries which have supplied troops for defending the enclaves, thus also by The Netherlands.

Van Mierlo thinks that Gorazde is certainly "more easily defensible" than Srebrenica and Zepa, if only because at least 10,000 armed Muslims are ready to resist the Bosnian Serbs. If troops of the Rapid Reaction Force would come on top of that, Gorazde would become an "unattractive target" for the Serbs. The most important obstacle in Van Mierlo's scenario, is Russia. [passage omitted]

Netherlands Minister Expects Gorazde To Fall

BR1807152495 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 18 Jul 95 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Dutchbat Silent Upon Return to Soesterberg"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Soesterberg—They were well treated by the Bosnian Serbs. They are just tired, and fed up with potatoes and sausages. They have lost a lot of personal possessions. Some of them only have a T-shirt and underpants left. Apart from that they have nothing to say.

The 75 Dutchbat soldiers who arrived yesterday afternoon at 1500 [1300 GMT] in four Air Force F-27 planes at the Soesterberg air base knew exactly what they could and could not tell the press. Just as for their arrival at the UNPROFOR [United Nations Protection Force] base in Zagreb last weekend, before their departure to the Netherlands the danger had been pointed out that stories about Bosnian-Serb atrocities could undermine the negotiations for the departure of the 300 UN soldiers in Potocari.

The returning UN soldiers were released last weekend, after the Bosnian Serbs had held them hostage for a week. Twenty men from the medical service arrived in Zagreb on Saturday afternoon [15 July]. The other soldiers, 17 from Simici and 38 from Bratunac, were able to join them on Sunday.

"This is an afternoon with mixed emotions," said Prime Minister Kok, who together with Defense Minister Voorhoeve welcomed the UN soldiers. "In our hearts we are with the 300 Netherlanders still held hostage. But these lads also have a right to a celebratory return home."

Voorhoeve expressed an expectation that the Netherlanders who are still in Potocari will be released at the end of the week. "That has been promised to us at the highest level. But we will have to see it first," he said. With regard to the crisis in Bosnia, the minister would only say that there are advanced plans to evacuate the Muslim enclave of Zepa, which has been under fire from the Bosnian Serbs for days. "Zepa can no longer be saved militarily. Now we must send everything which can drive there to take the people to central Bosnia in time. The Netherlands-Belgian transport battalion could be involved in this evacuation," he said.

"Your first reaction is then perhaps: That is ethnic cleansing too. But we have no choice. Then at least we can evacuate in our way and take everyone with us," he said. On Monday afternoon the Bosnian Government agreed to the evacuation. "It is a question of waiting to see whether the Serbs agree to a cease-fire," Voorhoeve said.

The minister would say nothing about the fate of the third threatened Muslim enclave, Gorazde. "In Gorazde there are 10,000 Muslim fighters and three hundred UN soldiers. What do I conclude from that? That it will be a few weeks before the Bosnian Serbs have that enclave in their hands," he said.

Netherlands Minister Pledges Substantial Aid

BR1807152795 Rotterdam ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD in Dutch 17 Jul 95 p 5

[Report by Othon Zimmermann: "Pronk Remains Convinced of UN Role"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tuzla—Development Cooperation Minister Pronk has had enough. Since his arrival in Tuzla he has not had a moment's peace.

"I am not going along with that. Damn it, I am not a tourist," he said to the camera teams following on his heels during a visit to the 6,000 refugees at the airport. He ran off quickly into the camp.

The minister arrived in a snow-white helicopter at Norbat's camp south of Tuzla on Saturday [15 July]. He wanted to get a picture of the specific humanitarian situation in order to know what decisions he can take to alleviate the suffering.

He was accompanied on his journey through Tuzla by a team of the Defense and Development Cooperation Ministries led by Lieutenant Colonel Kuijpers. Pronk admits there was considerable frustration in the Bosnian Government because the "safe areas" designated by the international community are not safe. Worse still, they are the most unsafe regions in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina.

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But Pronk experienced that the anger over the fall of Srebrenica has ebbed away. The Bosnian Government is accepting its responsibility and no longer shouts that "All this is a UN problem."

Because of this Pronk expected the situation in Tuzla to become "reasonable" in a few days. The reception efforts, including at Tuzla airport, are good, Pronk concluded. He calls the situation at the airfield "excellent work." "I have never seen a camp set up so quickly," he said.

The minister was rather disappointed with the coordination of the aid. "Above all we must provide money and transport. The UNHCR, the refugee organization of the United Nations, and the Red Cross have enough food and material for the refugees," he said.

Yesterday Pronk had extensive talks with two Bosnian ministers, the governor of Tuzla, and aid workers, including from MSF [Doctors Without Borders], and the UNHCR. He held out a perspective to the Bosnian Government of $5 million to help the refugees from Srebrenica.

Earlier the minister made 20 million guilders available for emergency aid, especially to nongovernmental organizations. The UN is to deal with coordination. In addition it has been agreed that the United Nations will make an amount available per person in exchange for "own support" in Bosnia. The transport of refugees to other countries is not on the agenda.

One thing was clear, Pronk said: Without the UN peacekeeping force everything would have been much worse. The minister was very concerned about the fate of the men who the Bosnian Serbs have put in camps, including in Bratunac. "Their fate is our first priority," he said. This question would be discussed today in Brussels, where the EU foreign ministers are to meet, he said.

There is a proposal to get the troika of Spain, Italy, and France to negotiate about their release, if necessary also with Mladic. "Hopefully the Serb government in Belgrade will give the troika full support, to put the Bosnian Serbs under pressure to release all these men and boys. I have proposed having aerial photographs taken of the area where the men are now," Pronk said.

Danish Battalion Chief Describes Tuzla Conditions

BR1807122995 Copenhagen DET FRI AKTUELT in Danish 15 Jul 95 pp 12-13

[Report on interview with Danish Major Niels Pedersen, chief of Danish tank battalion in Bosnia, by Henrik Winther in Tuzla; date not given: "Danish Soldiers Struggling To Help Refugees"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Danish UN troops in Tuzla are slaving to help the thousands of refugees currently streaming into the enclave after being expelled from Srebrenica. "My men are pitching in as though they have never done anything else; they are very motivated to help," said Danish tank battalion chief in Tuzla, Major Niels Pedersen, who spoke to DET FRI AKTUELT by satellite telephone.

"Mainly they work around the clock putting up tents and building latrines, but as many of the children who arrive at the air base in Tuzla have no clothes, they are also kept busy finding children's clothes. Many are ill; there is the threat of a water shortage, and nobody is able to get a comprehensive view of the situation," the major reported.

At the moment, refugees from Srebrenica are streaming over the line about 40 km south of Tuzla. The Serbs have driven them to no man's land by bus. The refugees then walk 2 to 3 km over the front lines and are then picked up by UN and Bosnian buses. Some of the refugees are then sent to Tuzla and others to another area.

Five Thousand in Tent Camp

[Pedersen] There are incredibly many, and our resources are not sufficient. So the Bosnians are doing a great deal of work in this respect themselves. I would guess that we have billeted 4,000-5,000 refugees in the tent camp we have built out at the air base, but there are in any case just as many waiting to get in.

Outside around the air base there are several large fields of grass which are drained, and we are using this area for tent camps. The whole thing is also secured by the United Nations in advance, so unauthorized people cannot get in. We are in the process of setting up a large tent town, and several hundred tents are presently being set up along the runway. We have people working constantly pitching tents.

[Winther] How many tents do you have?

[Pedersen] It is difficult for me to say, because we scrape together everything we can lay our hands on. We are currently getting some of the tents we need from the battalion's own warehouse and from the UNHCR warehouses in particular, which are located farther inside the area.

Water Is Critical

[Winther] How are sanitary conditions?

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[Pedersen] We are trying to get that organized. We work like crazy, but of course it is not like a Danish hospital ward. Toilets are not used here; we build latrines, holes in the ground, into which we then pour slaked lime, so the refugees can manage to relieve themselves. This is the way we have to handle this to begin with.

[Winther] Do you have water and rations?

[Pedersen] That is a bit critical at the moment, it is incredibly hot here, about 35 degrees centigrade, so there is extra need for water. We have turned over all the reserve water we have for Nordbat, and then we have a container with 8,000 l of water with purification equipment attached, which we have placed at their disposition at the air base.

[Winther] How long can that last?

[Pedersen] It lasts for a few hours, but they fill it up continuously out there.

[Winther] How about food?

[Pedersen] We have not been much involved in that as the aid organizations have now started to arrive on the scene, and they have divided up the work among themselves.

I have 120 men, but this is not a job we can handle alone. We are responsible for the overall direction of setting up the refugee camp, and my next-in-command, Captain Jan Thorn, is coordinating the work at the air base itself. He has got staff from here (tank headquarters; DET FRI AKTUELT editorial note) who can coordinate the actual work. Nordbat, the battalion to which we belong, has provided soldiers for the work.

My guess would be that there are a total of 300-400 Nordbat soldiers involved. The Norwegians are also taking part in this now, and we are trying to get the Pakistanis to help too. They normally have men stationed at the airport.

[Winther] Do you have a comprehensive view of the situation?

[Pedersen] In a situation like this you cannot expect to have an overall view of anything at all. These are not orderly conditions at any time or in any respect. The main thing is to get people in place and give them a roof over their heads, and then to see that they get some water and some food.

Many of the children now arriving do not have any clothes, and we have therefore redirected a container of clothes from Denmark out there. Normally this is part of our own area of responsibility. We have also unloaded children's clothes.

We also have a big crate of sanitary supplies which we distribute out there. But this is a drop in the ocean; what would help is for UNHCR to get seriously involved, and they are in the process of doing so.

The refugees are exclusively women and children, although there are a few men whom I would call real old-timers. And many of them are ill. Their condition varies considerably, some keep up a good front, but others are exhausted.

[Winther] This must be a tough experience for your people?

[Pedersen] Yes, there will be a lot to talk about later. But if anyone is in crisis, it is not us, but rather the refugees. If any of my men need psychological help we can requisition it with 24-hour notice to the Danish military psychologists, but we simply do not get out that long, these are professional soldiers I have down here.

[Winther] What do you need the most at the moment?

[Pedersen] Right now it is water and sanitary equipment. The refugees left home with nothing at all.

Delic Blames Croats for Sarajevo Offensive Failure

LD1807190095 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 1417 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Tuzla, 18 Jul (SRNA)—General Rasim Delic, commander of the Muslim units in part of the former Bosnia-Herzegovina, today described the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] units as being responsible for the failure and total collapse of the latest Muslim offensive on Serb Sarajevo.

Delic told the Muslim radio in Tuzla that "the Muslims and the HVO fought together only as far as the media was concerned, and the [Muslim-Croat] agreements were not implemented on the battlefield."

The Muslim commander accused the Croats of "pushing the Muslims into major battles against the Serb republic army while wisely awaiting the final stage in which they would demand a Croat municipality in Sarajevo if the Muslims should win."

"It is likely that the HVO would later demand the setting up of the Croat municipality of Vrhbosna [old Croat name for Sarajevo], which would extend from Stup to Kiseljak," Delic said.

Speaking about the HVO's betrayal in detail, Delic said that the Croats "were supposed to silence the Serb artillery between Kralupi and Kokoska, but instead they procrastinated."

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Tuzla Mayor Criticizes UN Over Fall of Srebrenica

AU1807210295 Paris AFP in English 2036 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina, July 18 (AFP)—A shell landed in the center of the Bosnian safe haven of Tuzla late Tuesday, killing two people, witnesses said.

The attack came only hours after the mayor of the Bosnian town, which in recent days has welcomed more than 17,000 refugees, blasted the United Nations for failing to stop the Serb advance on Moslem enclaves and to protect residents in these so-called safe areas.

The shell, which hit about 8:30 p.m. (1800 GMT), came from Bosnian Serb hilltop positions outside the town and landed near a theater.

One of the victims was a man who had been drinking a beer at an outdoor cafe. He died instantly while a woman died of her injuries before an ambulance could arrive, according to an AFP reporter on the scene.

On May 25 rebel Serbs shelled the town center after NATO airstrikes, killing 71 mostly youngsters.

Tuzla is located near mounts Majevica and Ozren whose upper slopes are held by Serb forces.

Tuzla airport is also within reach of Serb artillery. The United Nations Protection Force's Nordic battalion there has given shelter to more than 6,000 refugees from the UN-declared safe haven of Srebrenica which was overrun by the Serbs on July 11.

Tuzla Mayor Selim Beslagic told a press conference Tuesday: "We asked the Dutch why they withdrew their troops from Srebrenica" before it fell.

"The United Nations did not protect residents of the enclave as they had committed themselves to do. But the peacekeepers are not guilty, it is their leaders who are."

He said that although he was bitter at the fall of Srebrenica to the Serbs, he did not want the United Nations to withdraw from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"You need a change in the UN mandate in Bosnia and Srebrenica needs to resume its status as a safe area," said Beslagic, who has been increasingly critical of the United Nations since the Serb shelling of Tuzla in May.

He said that in order for the United Nations to restore its credibility, it needed to adopt a tougher approach in dealing with the Serbs.

"The UN soldiers are being sold out just like the Bosnians," he said. "That is in violation of human rights. Who has the right to chain UN soldiers like dogs?"

He was referring to the Serb capture of UN troops following NATO air strikes on a Serb weapons depot in May and television footage showing some of the soldiers chained at strategic sites. [passage omitted]

Zenica Officials on Arrival of Srebrenica Refugees

AU1807201995 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Beslim Spahic, head of Zenica municipality, and his assistants received representatives of the religious and political life of the Zenica Croats.

(?Josip Pajovnik), president of the municipal committee of the Croatian Democratic Community of Zenica, [word indistinct] (?Stjepan Radic), and Pero Juric held talks with the representatives of the municipality about the best way to receive and accommodate the exiled persons from Srebrenica.

They expressed a mutual readiness to pay maximum attention to the receipt and accommodation of the exiled persons from Srebrenica to avoid any possible new misunderstandings. The misfortune of the Bosniaks from Srebrenica must not cause any sort of new migrations of the population.

The representatives of the Croatian people, who expressed readiness to resolve all possible misunderstandings and problems responsibly and through talks, are and will be included in the work of the committee and subcommittees for the receipt and accommodation of the exiled persons.

Eyewitness Describes Escape From Srebrenica

BR1807143195 Rotterdam ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD in Dutch 18 Jul 95 pp 1, 7

[Report by Othon Zimmermann: "Muslim Fighters Hunted Like Wild Animals on Hellish Journey"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tuzla—At a deserted army base near Zivinice a young man leans against a tree. He has collapsed cheeks and hollow eyes. A gold ring nearly slips off his finger. His handshake feels like a vice.

Ibro Mehmedovic is one of the 1,000 Muslim fighters who fought their way from Srebrenica to Muslim territory in Bosnia, with an estimated 12,000 refugees, hunted like wild animals.

The hellish journey lasted five days, which possibly cost the lives of 2,000 refugees and fighters. His father was probably among the dead. He saw him for the last time half way on the journey, completely exhausted.

He spoke desperately to acquaintances from Srebrenica when they passed by. "Have you seen my father? Did

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Abdullah arrive in Nezuk?" he asks. No one had news about him. When the Netherlands UN soldiers withdrew along with civilians from Srebrenica to Potocari, thousands of men decided that they would not let themselves be taken by the advancing Serbs. "We saw the material, the heavy tanks, the rocket launchers, and we knew it was over. At a certain moment we counted 36 shells landing in half a minute. We also saw that those who stayed behind were killed without mercy," says the 24-year-old fighter.

He finds it hard to speak. He is nervous and broken. "If you look in my eyes, then you see a different man than six days ago. No one, apart from us, the survivors, will ever be able to understand what horrors we have lived through. The earth is burning and weeping where we walked. The dead lie there by the hundreds. Only the wounded could be taken along," he says. The survivors of the journey through hell are being distributed throughout the government area in Bosnia. Hospitals are overflowing with the wounded. The feet of many of them are one bloody wound.

"We had to fight our way out. We had less than 1,000 weapons, a couple of rocket launchers, zoljas (antitank weapons, ed.), and a couple of heavy machine guns. I had a Chinese Kalashkinov," says Ibro. Along with most of those in his 284th brigade, he was from the villages which were "cleansed" in the winter of 1993 by the Serbs. The group gathered on Wednesday [12 July] in the village of Susnjara, close to Srebrenica, still just in the "UN safe area."

'Some People Went Mad and Committed Suicide'

Under the leadership of their commander Veiz Sabic, Ibro and his fellow fighters entered the mountains in the direction of government territory. Each brigade took a group of refugees under its wings.

"The first Serb line near Biljim was deserted. They had left a gap to allow us through. When half the column, at the start of the journey it was 15 km long, was through, the Serbs opened fire. Everyone dived away, but there was no cover. You had to wait and see whether you were hit or not. Many dozens of dead and wounded fell.

"In the night we went to Kamenica. It took four or five hours before the entire column was through. And from Kravica the Serbs fired on our rearguard. Once again there were many casualties. We had to pass the village of Lolici at a distance of 300 m and were fired upon by everything the Serbs had there. The attempt to break our column failed. But it took many victims.

"At Ljesine we had to cross the main road. Two armored vehicles fired on our group with machine guns. That attack was so strong that the column broke in two. The big group continued in the direction of Cerska. The others spread out behind us in the woods. There must have been a terrible slaughter there. We heard that later from comrades who joined us again.

"On the third day we reached the mountain Udrca. We were not fired upon nearly all that night. But the supplies ran out. There was not a drop of water. Unripe apples were the only thing to be found. At Snagovo there was a large concentration of Chetniks (Bosnian Serbs, ed.). Our commander, who via his field radio stayed constantly in contact with the Serbs, asked them for a free passage, but to no avail. We cleared a path and decided to make a frontal assault in daylight. The fighting lasted more than five hours.

"We suffered enormous losses but managed to take a hilltop which ensured us a way through. The fighting continued and between Zvornik and Crni Vrh the column once again had to cross a road. We were a fine target there. Sometimes shells landed right in the middle of the people. The situation cannot be described. I do not understand how we were able to survive. It is the hand of God, I suppose. People died by the handful. The explosions are still ringing in my head," Ibro said. He has difficulty continuing. Because it would get worse still.

"Releasing a few Chetniks taken prisoner got us free passage of the road in exchange. At night we made a camp. We sat there dead quiet. The Serbs did not find us. We went alongside small streams in deep creeks, so that it was difficult to hit us with heavy weapons. On that day we passed half way.

"But the totally exhausted people were in a state of shock. They started to eat leaves or grass. Some went mad. There were suicides. One pulled out the pin from a grenade in the middle of a conversation, stuck it against his breast and... bang, it was over. We continued step by step, we ate pears as hard as glass. We still had radio contact with the Chetniks and let them know: 'You will never get us alive. So let us through without fighting.'

"That day there was a storm. Rain and hail. That helped us. They could not find us properly. We agreed in that 'symbolic storm' that under no circumstances would we leave wounded people behind us. It sounds incredible, but we took strength from the storm. Exhausted people were carried by people who were a little less exhausted.

"Through to Bajkovica. If we had known how well the Serbs had prepared our arrival then our courage would probably have deserted us. There were five tanks against us. We destroyed two and took three. I no longer know how the fight went. The overview will

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come later. It was chaos. No strategy, a bloodbath. Due to lack of ammunition we had to let the Serbs, including infantry, get to within 70 m. And then, fire! Many Chetniks died there," he said. In the meantime the Bosnian Government Army was firing heavily from Nezuk on the Serb positions to keep them busy. At the same time attempts were made to make a corridor to Nezuk, from both sides. The brigades in the column prepared themselves for the last definitive attempt to break out.

"We got through. There was a 2 km wide corridor, but we were continually shot at by snipers from the flanks. Those who were shot dead remained lying there. On Sunday afternoon the first group came through. Civilians carried the wounded on improvised stretchers. We, the fighters, continued to protect the group."

Ibro remains silent a long time and then says: "It is incredible. But it is God's will. This journey, the suffering, the death, the grief, the panic, it cannot be exaggerated. Perhaps I do not know precisely the time and place here and there, but you do not look at your watch when you are in a fight for survival. I do not fear death. Fear would have been our death. If I had died then I would have entered dzenet (paradise, ed.) like everyone who falls in the struggle for the way of Allah.

"We reached our goal. We got most of the people from Srebrenica here. Our determination and solidarity were enormous. We know there is no hope of a foreign intervention, so we have to do it ourselves. Now it has been proven that it is possible. That the Bosnian people will survive. The Serb people are the worst in the world. Yes, I have become bitter after a siege of two years. But the Serbs will destroy themselves."

Ibro points to a pile of human wreckage which stumbles past. "Look, that was a strapping fellow. A real fighter. There is nothing left of him. Thousands will have to live on with indescribable nightmares," he says.

Bishop to Karadzic: Stop Violence Against Church

LD1907124195 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 19 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] We have received yet another appeal by Banja Luka Bishop Franjo Komarica:

Twenty parish churches and 22 local churches have been completely demolished or damaged, while a dozen or so Catholic cemeteries have been desecrated in the Banja Luka area. The latest instance of violence against the Catholic church took place on 12 July in Mrkonjic Grad, where two years ago the parish church of St. Philip and Jacob was burnt down. Several days ago, Luka Culic, chairman of the Serb Democratic Party in Mrkonjic Grad, issued an order to demolish the churchyard fence; enormous efforts are being made to remove the Catholic Church from Mrkonjic Grad because the municipal authorities wish to build a market once the church has been pulled down.

In his appeal to Radovan Karadzic, calling on him to halt violence against the Catholic Church, Franjo Komarica recalls that a week ago, the Church of St Joseph was burned down in Banja Luka, the eighth Catholic church to have suffered this fate in the past two months. In the name of which God is this being done? Will you also approve of such activities of your local authorities which are aimed at the complete annihilation of the Catholic Church in this municipality and elsewhere, where similar things are happening, Bishop Komarica wonders?

In his letter to Radovan Karadzic the Banja Luka bishop says that between 1 April and 15 May, Caritas provided aid for 40,000 Croats, Serbs, and Muslims in the Banja Luka area, who received only 4.5 kilos of food per person during these three months because of the Serb blockade of humanitarian aid convoys. In the conclusion of the letter which was also sent to the apostolic nuncio in Sarajevo and the holy bishops' synod in Belgrade, Bishop Franjo Komarica calls on Radovan Karadzic to halt violence against the Catholic Church and enable the Croat population to live a dignified life with all rights in their centuries-old homes.

Serbs Using Chemical Weapons, Aircraft on Bihac

AU1907090695 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 19 Jul 95

[Report by Muhamed Mulic from Bihac]

[FBIS Translated Text] Martic's and Abdic's Chetniks began an (?all-out) offensive on the Una-Sana Canton shortly after 0300 [0100 GMT] this morning. After fierce artillery preparation with howitzers, multiple rocket launchers, tanks, and other (?artillery), the joint aggressors began fierce infantry assaults in the Johovica, Radakovici, and (Idolska) region. At the same time, the enemy has been employing artillery from the so-called SAO [Serbian autonomous region] of Krajina around the former airport at Zeljava, as well as Licko Petrovo Selo, (Stradjilovac), and (?Plitvicki Ljeskovac) against the following villages and districts in the Bihac Municipality: Kamenica, Izacic, Vikici, Gata, (Kokus), and (Papari), while two surface-to-surface missiles have been fired at the districts of (Vrsta) and Brekovica. According to initial and incomplete data, apart from massive damage there are many casualties. As I report, fierce battles with enemy units from the so-called Serb Krajina are still under way.

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We have just received the following report from the 5th Corps Press Service: The joint aggressors have been using chemical weapons in the Johovica region and enemy aircraft have taken off from Udbine Airport and have been flying over the combat zone. The aggressor's operations with all kinds of weapons have been stepped up on all sections of the front. To judge from everything, early this morning the enemy launched a large-scale offensive from the so-called Serb Krajina against this part of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Croats Protest Resettlement of Muslim Refugees

LD1807174395 Mostar Croatian Radio Herzeg-Bosnia in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In connection with the actions being undertaken by the Bosniak-Muslim authorities in the area of Soli [Tuzla] and Kakanj, and in connection with the chetnik occupation, and the expulsion of a large number of Bosniak Muslims from this former UN safe zone, the county committee of Soli and its Croatian Democratic Union [HDZ], and the Kakanj HDZ municipal committee, have sent the following letter to Dario Kordic, president of the Bosnia-Herzegovina HDZ:

The resettlement of displaced people from Srebrenica into Croat houses, villages, and residential areas in the Soli region is completely changing the ethnic, demographic, cultural, religious, and every other structure. This may cause uncertainty among the Croat population and further stimulate the emigration of Croats from this grand county. The county organization of the Soli HDZ rejects the decision adopted by the authorities in the Tuzla-Podrinje grand county on the use of empty apartments. According to this decision, the displaced people from Srebrenica would be accommodated in Croat apartments and houses. This is the standpoint they will put to the membership of the HDZ and the rest of the population.

The letter from Kakanj says, among other things:

While fully understanding the suffering of ordinary people from Srebrenica, we believe that the accommodation of 2,000 displaced persons from this former UN safe zone in the Croat village of Poljani in the Kakanj municipality is for exclusively political and not humanitarian reasons. In keeping with this, difficulties are created in the functioning of the interim municipal council of Kakanj vis-a-vis the constitution of the federation, because the decision was made without consulting Croat representatives in the municipal council. The accommodation of displaced persons from Srebrenica in this Croat village brings into question the return of displaced refugee Croats from the area of the Kakanj municipality, and this represents an additional burden for the few remaining Croats in the area of the Kakanj municipality.

Karadzic Calls For Gorazde Forces To Surrender

AU1907074195 Paris AFP in English 0652 GMT 19 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pale, Bosnia-Herzegovina, July 19 (AFP)—Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic on Wednesday demanded that Bosnian government forces defending the eastern enclave of Gorazde surrender "immediately."

He warned that foreign aircraft would be shot down if they intervened there.

Karadzic, in a statement carried by the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA, said "with respect to Gorazde, Moslem soldiers must surrender their weapons immediately and become civilians" or they would face a Serb onslaught.

"The Serbs would never have attacked the so-called protected zones if they had really been demilitarized," the Serb leader said, noting that these UN "safe areas" were "veritable bastions of the Moslem army from which massive offensives were launched against the Serbs."

He also warned against any foreign attempt to defend the enclave, saying his troops "will shoot down helicopters and planes which will protect the Moslem army."

"If the Moslem army in Gorazde wants to fight the Serbs, we will not allow foreign armed forces to protect our enemies," Karadzic warned. "Whoever sides militarily with the Moslems must realize that he will be at war with the Serbs."

"In self defense, we will be forced to shoot down helicopters and planes which will protect the Moslem army," he said, while voicing hope that "the international community will understand and finally take reality into account and will thus help bring an end to the conflict."

At meetings in London on Monday, British, French and U.S. military officials considered proposals for military action, including the use of U.S. helicopters to fly 1,000 French troops into embattled Gorazde.

France is urging its western allies to make a stand at Gorazde, now defended by 300 British peacekeepers. Britain is said to regard the plan as dangerous. Moscow also opposes it.

Serb authorities in Gorazde "will restore order and peace until a political solution is found," Karadzic said.

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Last week, Bosnian Serb forces captured the Moslem eastern enclave of Srebrenica and they are now threatening another UN-protected enclave in the area, Zepa.

Tuesday Bosnian Army troops in Zepa threatened to use Ukrainian peacekeepers as human shields as Bosnian Serbs shelled the enclave and fighting was reported in Bihac, another "safe area" in northwest Bosnia.

Karadzic Issues Ultimatum to Bosnian Army in Zepa

AU1907062395 Paris AFP in English 0615 GMT 19 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pale, Bosnia-Herzegovina, July 19 (AFP)—Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic on Wednesday issued an ultimatum to Bosnian government forces defending the eastern enclave of Gorazde, enjoining them to surrender "immediately" or face an offensive.

Karadzic, in a statement carried by the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA, also warned against any foreign attempt to defend the enclave, saying his troops "will shoot down helicopters and planes which will protect the Moslem army."

Karadzic Receives Yugoslav War Crimes Commission

LD1807190695 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 1708 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Sarajevo, 18 Jul (SRNA)—Radovan Karadzic, president of the Serb Republic, received in Pale today representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia committee for collecting details on war crimes against humanity and international law, who briefed him on the results of their work so far.

Committee Chairman Zoran Stojanovic, Rodoljub Etinski, main legal adviser at the Federal Foreign Ministry; and Ilija Simic, a member of the committee, had talks with President Karadzic on the continuation of successful cooperation with the relevant Serb Republic committee and the legal proceedings before the international tribunal at the Hague. [passage indistinct]

Koljevic Backs Continued UNPROFOR Presence

AU1807174595 Novi Sad DNEVNIK in Serbo-Croatian 18 Jul 95 p 2

[S.R. report: "'We Do Not Care'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Srpsko Sarajevo, 17 Jul—Is UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] going to stay in the former Bosnia-Herzegovina, or will the Blue Helmets withdraw? Many contradictory hints have been emerging from the United Nations and the EU on this issue recently. One day all the talk is of the French, the British, the Spanish, and so on withdrawing, and the following day the governments of these countries deny the articles in the Western press, and the statements by their politicians.

The attitude of the government and the state leadership of the Serb Republic is well known; the Serbs oppose neither the departure nor the stay of the Blue Helmets. Nikola Koljevic, deputy president of the Serb Republic, says:

"UNPROFOR is neither useful nor detrimental to us. We could even say that it is more detrimental than useful, since we could see hundreds of times that UNPROFOR sided, directly or indirectly, with our enemy, and we have reliable proof of that. We have never attacked UNPROFOR members, while NATO has been attacking Serb positions to protect UNPROFOR members. How absurd! In Zepa the Muslims have disarmed the Ukrainian battalion of Blue Helmets, they are holding them hostage, and NATO is not undertaking any action against the Muslims. Realistically speaking, it would be best if UNPROFOR were to stay, particularly if the negotiating process were renewed soon, and if some sort of lasting peace were achieved, which should then be maintained. But if UNPROFOR does withdraw, nothing significant will change since peace and war in the former Bosnia-Herzegovina mostly depend on the three warring sides."

Abdic Forces Urge Izetbegovic Units To Defect

LD1807221395 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 2124 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Velika Kladusa, 18 Jul (SRNA)—The command of the People's Defense of Western Bosnia today called on members of Izetbegovic's 5th Corps and people on the territory under his control to cease to obey their officers and join its units, Velkaton Radio reports.

The appeal states that in the wake of Srebrenica even the most loyal supporters of Izetbegovic are finally realizing where the Muslims are being led and that his policy always eventually results in countless casualties, suffering and refugees.

The People's Defense Command notes that Izetbegovic promised a united Bosnia to the people of Srebrenica, too, and talked them into attacking Serbs from "the protected zone" while promising them protection.

"People believed, and have regrettably experienced the most tragic fate. One should not doubt that Izetbegovic intends to wreak the same fate on Bihac and Cazin," the appeal states and stresses that unless the people put

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up armed resistance to the extremists of the 5th Corps, "those extremists will have an open corridor to central Bosnia."

"We are offering you the possibility of disobeying your commanders and joining units of the People's Defense. In this way you will not experience the plight of exodus. You will save your lives and those of your family, all your property, and most important, all of us will get a lasting peace. Take you decision immediately, because the future of Bihac and western Bosnia is being decided on these days," the command of western Bosnia's army says in its appeal.

Serb Official: Srebrenica Returning to 'Normal'

LD1907095795 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0827 GMT 19 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Srebrenica, 19 July (TANJUG)—The life in Srebrenica is slowly returning to normal.

Houses and flats are being repaired for returning Serb families which fled Srebrenica three and a half years ago. According to a member of the war presidency of the Serb municipality of Srebrenica, Momcilo Cvjetinovic, power and water supply will be restored in several days, telephones will be operational again, and Serb Srebrenica radio will start broadcasting.

Cvjetinovic called on all Serb refugee families to return to their homes. "Those who have avoided military conscription can also return because they will not be treated as deserters," he said.

Cvjetinovic pointed out that the attitude toward civilians in Srebrenica had been correct. "They were offered the option to remain in the town if they so wished, but the Muslims wanted to go to Tuzla, Kladanj, and other towns and their wishes were heeded," he said.

The war presidency in Srebrenica will exist until conditions for normal life are created and that will happen soon, Cvjetinovic said.

The presidency is made up of people who until recently carried out civilian duties to which they will return as soon as civilian authorities are set up in Srebrenica.

Naser Oric, the local Muslim commander in Srebrenica, escaped to Tuzla as long as five months ago with a group of his officers, Cvjetinovic said and added that routed groups of Muslim soldiers are wandering through forests in an attempt to break through and reach Muslim-held territory. These groups have been encircled by Serb forces.

Zametica Denies Maltreatment of Srebrenica Muslims

AU1807195795 Banja Luka Srpska Televizija in Serbo-Croatian 1830 GMT 17 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Jovan Zametica, advisor to Radovan Karadzic, the president of the Serb Republic, pointed out the following in today's press release:

In the past several days, the international media, aided by the Muslim authorities, have been using violent propaganda, unrealistically reporting on the events related to the situation in Srebrenica. The accusations concerning alleged torture, killing, rape, and deportation of Muslim civilians are being repeated without any independent verification. The truth is that none of these accusations has a firm basis. UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] has been on the ground in Srebrenica the entire time and can confirm the fact that the Muslim civilian population was treated well by the Serbs. Moreover, the stories about civilians being expelled are completely untrue, since their evacuation was arranged beforehand with the representatives of the Muslim civilian authorities. The Muslim authorities demanded that the evacuation be carried out for fear of the Serbs returning to their homes in Srebrenica.

It should be pointed out that Muslims committed terrible crimes against the Serb civilians in this area. The aim of the Muslim propaganda is to conceal the fact that the Muslim authorities were making the position of their own people worse consciously and on purpose, manipulating the international opinion in the attempt to involve the international community in the conflict on their side, as an active participant in the conflict.

Evacuation Done Correctly

LD1807141895 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 1417 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Sarajevo, 18 July (SRNA)—The Srebrenica Committee for Civilian Affairs has made public the minutes from a meeting with Muslim representatives held on 12 July in Hotel Fontana, which shows that the Serb side carried out evacuation of the population from Srebrenica in a correct manner and in line with agreements.

"In the course of the evacuation there were no incidents on either side, while the Serb side abode by all provisions of the Geneva convention and international laws of war," says a joint statement which was signed on behalf of the Muslim side by representative of the former Srebrenica authorities Nesib Mandzic.

The text says that the above-mentioned meeting was held at the request of the Muslim delegation which was

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represented by Camila Purkovic, Ibro Nuhanovic, and Nesib Mandzic.

The Serb side was represented by Colonel General Ratko Mladic, Serb Army Commander; Miroslav Deronjic, Srebrenica civilian affairs commissioner; Ljubislav Simic, Bratunac district chief; and Srbislav Davidovic, chairman of the Executive Council of the Bratunac District .

An agreement was reached at the meeting, which was also attended by the commander of the Dutch UNPROFOR battalion, that civilian population can remain in the enclave or be evacuated, depending on the individual wish of every person. [passage omitted]

Serb Krajina Delegation Visits Srebrenica

LD1807164395 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 1604 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Sarajevo, 18 Jul (SRNA)—A delegation of the government of the Republic of Serb Krajina visited Srebrenica two days ago. Following its visit it suggested that a session of the government be held later this week in order to discuss solutions to the problem of stabilizing the current situation in the area of the Srebrenica-Skelani municipality in the wake of the liberation of this municipality from Islamic extremists.

If there is a high degree of agreement on the view that the area of the Srebrenica-Skelani municipality is an important economic and geostrategic area which has, following its liberation from Muslim occupation, been integrated into the compact whole of the Serb Republic, then it is necessary for the government to hold an extraordinary session by the end of this week and pay particular attention to solving all current problems, Vice Premier Dragan Dragic told SRNA.

"The restoration of the infrastructure and the economic facilities in Srebrenica is a matter of such priority that the government must invest extra efforts and provide the civilian authorities of the Srebrenica-Skelani municipality with expert and financial assistance so that the normalization of life can take place," Dragic said.

Serbs Claim Army Fires Shells at Ilijas

AU1907102095

[FBIS Editorial Report] Banja Luka Srpski Radio Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1700 GMT on 18 July carries in its regular 35-minute newscast several reports on the military situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Correspondent Goran Stojanovic says that on the Trebova front, the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army launched "a strong infantry attack with artillery support intending to penetrate Serb defense lines on the southern part of the front. The attack was repulsed without consequences and the defense lines remain unchanged." Describing the situation on the Doboj-Teslic front, he says that "strong" Bosnia-Herzegovina Army "provocations and small arms activity" were reported along the front lines "to which Serb soldiers responded adequately." He proceeds to report on the Ozren-Vozuca front that the previous day the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army "from the Bosna valley, northeast of Maglaj, attempted several strong infantry breakthroughs but of no avail, while Muslim [Bosnia-Herzegovina Army] artillery was active along the front line toward Ozren."

Reporting on the situation in the Sarajevo-Romanija theater of operations, correspondent Gordana Krunic says that "in the afternoon, the enemy from the direction of Visoko and Breza stepped up combat activity targeting the Ilijas defense lines. There were no infantry attacks, but artillery weapons were not dormant. They targeted the Serb defense lines, which also came under heavy sniper fire throughout the day." Her report mentions that "some 30 shells and mortar bombs landed on the town of Ilijas, its suburbs, and nearby villages." Krunic says that, unlike the previous day, when government forces carried out "several combined artillery-infantry attacks without success, followed by frenzied shelling of residential areas in the Ilijas municipality, with over 200 shells killing one and wounding two civilians," there is a relative calm on the Ilijas front today. She goes on to say that "overnight and today, enemy soldiers have been spotted moving in the municipalities of Visoko and Breza."

Army 5th Corps Continues Attacks in West

AU1807200895

[FBIS Editorial Report] Banja Luka Srpska Televizija in Serbo-Croatian 1830 GMT 17 Jul 95 carries in its 30-minute newscast several reports on the fighting in the country. Reception is fair.

Mira Purkovic reports on the situation in western Bosnia, saying that "heavy artillery and infantry attacks launched by Dudakovic's 5th Corps continued in the early morning along the entire line, which is almost 60 kilometers long. They attempted to retrieve the lost territories, particularly near Crvarevac, where they have been concentrating forces and equipment." She adds that "on the Krupa front there was heavy mortar activity and sniper fire," and that "chief of staff of the army of western Bosnia appealed to the soldiers and the people of Bihac to stop the attacks on the Serb soldiers and their people and thus preserve their homes. However, the 5th Corps will not listen to the voice of reason, but is mobilizing boys, women, and old people." Moreover, she says that "following heavy fighting, Serb

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soldiers repelled an infantry attack, supported by tank and howitzer fire, on the Staretina pass, which separates the Livno from the Glamoc Plains." She also says that "joint Croat forces used 82-mm and 120-mm mortar fire from Velika Golija against Koricina pass south of Glamoc. Civilian targets in Glamoc were not spared artillery fire either."

Reporting from Doboj, Goran Stojanovic says that "on the Ozren-Vozuca front the enemy continued to open artillery and infantry fire in the valley of the Bosna River, on the southwestern part of this front, and heavy fire was also registered in the Banovici area, aimed toward the eastern part of Mount Ozren. Serb soldiers repelled all the enemy attacks and adequately responded to the artillery fire."

Mira Purkovic then continues to say that "there were heavy enemy artillery and infantry provocations toward the Serb territory on the Doboj, Trebava, Teslic, Vlasic, Kupres, and particularly Donji Vakuf part of the front, but they were not successful." She adds that "today Muslims launched another artillery and infantry attack in the Ljiljan-Kula and Lupoc areas, on Mount Treskavica. Fire was returned, and the Serb lines remained unchanged." In the Konjic-Kalinovik area "from the temporarily occupied village of Bijela they targeted Bijele Stijene, and from Gornji Razici they used mortar fire against Ribari. The Gorazde Muslims used antiaircraft guns and 82-mm mortars to target the civilian facilities in Zupcici, and in the area of (?Vilinska Kosa) Muslim forces were observed regrouping."

She also says that "TANJUG carried the statement of the UN representative in Sarajevo, saying that Serb forces and Muslim units reinforced their positions and artillery in the Zepa area, from where there have not yet been any reports on any major direct conflicts. According to the same sources, Serb forces are about 1.5 kilometers from the center of the enclave, having progressed some 500 meters on Sunday [16 July]. TANJUG also reported that Muslim units placed mortars 500 meters north of the base of the Ukrainian peace forces in the north of Zepa. It was also reported that the Muslim army units, which yesterday seized armored vehicles and various weapons from the Ukrainian soldiers, are feebly resisting the Serb forces, and it is estimated that the fall of the enclave, in which there are about 7,500 people, is a matter of time. According to the information from Kiev, the Ukrainian Government has been considering the plan for the evacuation of its 79 soldiers from Zepa in case it becomes necessary."

Moreover, she says that "Muslim forces launched a heavy mortar and infantry attack on the Serb lines on the Nisic Heights. The two-hour attempt at a breakthrough resulted in more Muslim casualties."

From Visoko and Breza "Muslim artillery today attacked civilian targets in Ilijas today around 1600 [1400 GMT]. There is considerable material damage, and the people are in shelters. New movements of the army from central Bosnia towards Breza and Visoko, which is supposed to fill in the decimated units of the 1st Muslim Corps, has been registered on this part of the front. The new movements of the Muslim army and equipment indicate that there have been preparations for the continuation of the offensive on this part of the front."

Spomenka Djurdjevic, reporting from the Sarajevo front, says that "on the northern, western, and southwestern parts of the Sarajevo front there were heavy infantry provocations along the entire frontline, the outer and inner ring around Serb Sarajevo. The heaviest enemy sniper activity was registered in Nedzarici and Kasindolska Street, as well as Rajlovac and Vogosca, and rifle grenade and hand grenade activity against almost all the Serb defense lines on this part of the front. Enemy warriors were much more active last night. Despite the continuous defeats on the Sarajevo front, the enemy attempted a breakthrough at the cement factory in Nedzarici during the night."

Zoran Jankovic reports that "although it is obvious that the Muslim offensive against Serb Sarajevo has been crushed, their units continue to attack the inner ring of the Serb defense. The most intensive attacks in the past few days were aimed at the defense positions in the Ozrenska Street area. In these attacks, they used U.S.-produced weapons and grenades with nitroglycerin charge, which are banned by international conventions on the use of weapons. The year of production 1993 is the best evidence that the arms embargo is merely fiction they have been using in political manipulations."

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Envoy to Belgrade Views Relations With FRY

AU1707104195 Split NEDJELJNA DALMACIJA in Serbo-Croatian 7 Jul 95 pp 21-22

[Interview with Zvonimir Markovic, head of the Croatian Office in Belgrade, by Robert Bajrusi; place and date not given: "In Belgrade It Is Said: If There Cannot Be Greater Serbia, There Can Be a New SFRY!"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Bajrusi] Up until yesterday, one spoke about the normalization of relations with the Milosevic regime. However, the latest events indicate the radicalization of the Serbian policy again. What are the reasons for such a development?

[Markovic] I feel that the normalization process must not be halted and that it awaits us in the future as well. This ostensible setback from normalization to radicalization of the situation springs from the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which has considerably diminished the chances of creating greater Serbia. So now there is a new homogenization in the former Yugoslavia, as well as in the Balkans, Europe, and the entire world, which is to say, it is about four levels, of which the first one is that of the former Yugoslavia, where we can clearly see those forces, that under the pretext of establishing a third Yugoslavia, they want to accomplish a new concentration of forces. Because of the defeats on the battlefield, they are forced to look for new alliances on all those levels, that is, in the former Yugoslavia, in the Balkans, in Europe, and in world politics, that will support that idea. It will certainly not be called greater Serbia, but rather, as you see, something like the Balkan or Adriatic confederation, association of states, or some fourth term, are being introduced. There exists a latent pressure, the aim of which is to at least promote the idea of those new confederations. In any case, we clearly recognize that it is a different name for the same thing, and in that respect the Croatian policy, at least as far as the internal plane is concerned, is clear, because even so far we have been able to descry such attempts, as well as parry them. The Serbs have experienced defeats on the fronts in Bosnia, and the strength of Croatia on the internal and international plane is growing day by day, and for that reason in the current situation we must keep our calm and untarnished image before the eyes of the world and still show them what we want. On the internal plane, we should not worry because we see that with regard to this issue, the attitudes are unanimous, as much for the ruling party as for the opposition. In Croatia, we cannot perceive any sort of fifth column that would get involved in the concept of the world, European or Balkan friends who would work on establishing some confederation, that is, greater Serbia under a different name. Despite the strong pressure put on us, we have to keep a cool head, even though we can assume that the pressure will be increasingly coming from each of the four levels, while it is up to us to prepare ourselves in order to be able to successfully parry it militarily and politically, and in that way preserve the Croatian state.

Whoever Is Pushing Greater Serbia?

[Bajrusi] Judging from the latest events, the initiators of those tendencies are the same people who designed the greater Serbia project.

[Markovic] The fact is that Serbia has not yet resolved a single critical problem at home. In Serbia, the situation is such that it does not make possible any more ambitious foreign policy, because, aside from force (that is never ending and that is obviously being used without any control), there must exist a strong economic background. At the same time, as for the balance of force and fear, you can see that it is becoming more and more inconvenient to Serbia. The unfavorable position is the very core of the problem, which is Bosnia-Herzegovina, is now mobilizing all those potential allies who would like to help Serbia, and that is the new wave that is being advocated now, offering new-old unions. Our current situation is only a reflection of such events happening in the world. That is, if you look at the situation in the world, you will see that America must pursue a delicate policy toward the Muslim world, because of its strategic interests. If we look at Europe we see that today's Russia is weak and that it is precisely the weakness that causes concern in England and France, whose policies are complementary with respect to Germany, that is at the moment on the rise, which is something that the Americans must also take into account. Besides, even today Europe is still dominated by the policy of four powers, two of which are empires that have collapsed, that is, the colonial empire of England and the "red empire" of Russia, that are still trying to win a dominant position. France is today in a zero position, because it cannot renounce the friendship with the fourth power, which is Germany. Germany today acts as a cohesive force in Europe, particularly in Central Europe (from the Baltic to the Adriatic). It proves itself to be an extremely valuable partner in the EU, because it insists on consensus that prevents a breach among the great four. At this point we are getting back to the United States again, to which a too strong and consolidated Europe does not suit, because it may turn into a more powerful partner in world politics. All these relations condition the behavior of the Balkan states and other states that are still reluctant to take a definite attitude, at least as long as the first two levels (Europe and world) are not definitely recognizable in

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their intentions. Therefore, it can be assumed that the fourth level, that of the former Yugoslavia, will be bound by the circumstances in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as in Krajina, after all. As for the Krajina, we have not given up the normalization process, and the door is open to all who want it. Today we have strength and capacity, as well as a firm position in the world, and we should not feel inferior. Croatia today is fighting its way into Europe, and for that reason it is not afraid that our enemies could considerably influence our position in the world. We are keeping a firm hold on our fate; it is important to preserve self-awareness and our strength, which originates from the unique desire to have our own state.

[Bajrusi] Does that mean that there is no danger of any announcements to restore Yugoslavia, on which, according to some of our information, Slobodan Milosevic and General Veljko Kadijevic agreed. Kadijevic later stated that they had agreed to use all means available to accomplish that goal.

[Markovic] As I said, the need for a third Yugoslavia exists not only within the former Yugoslav space, but also with the foreign factors. However, if there is anybody who caused the collapse of Yugoslavia, it is Kadijevic with his violent force and concept of creating greater Serbia by way of preserving unitary Yugoslavia. Because of such brutally used force, they have certainly lost the possibility to create any sort of confederation, and to put it simply, that chance is gone and today it is illusory to talk about that. At the same time, Kadijevic's theory is that the fundamentalists and the Ustashas will be destroyed, but in reality the Chetniks will just change their uniforms, and represent the same scheme on the basis of which we formed the former two Yugoslavias. This time you can be sure that the mistake that Radic [Croatian politician in early 20th century] referred to as "geese running headlong into the fog" will not be repeated. We may have run into the fog in 1918, and even failed the makeup exam in 1945, but in view of these two experiences and the latest one, that is five times more difficult than the former ones, I think only an irrational policy may envisage a chance for it [third Yugoslavia] to come about. In short, if our awareness of the need to develop our country is strong enough, there is no such force that can prevent us from achieving our goal. All these announcements about the need to form a new Yugoslavia are only a consequence of the unfavorable military situation in Bosnia that has frustrated the accomplishment of greater Serbia. Now they are trying to form a new state with a confederal system with chocolate icing on top, to put it colorfully, whereas it is actually nothing other than greater Serbia. Nevertheless, I am not worried, because today we have what is most important, and that is our clearly defined awareness among our people, so there is virtually nobody who could appear, neither in the Assembly nor in public, with such an idea about some new confederal state.

Belgrade Is the Hostage of the "Krajinas"

[Bajrusi] Is not this proposal bound up with the internal state in Serbia, which has so far failed to accomplish its goals and at the same time has a lot of problems to deal with, starting with a disastrous economic situation to the latent problems with its minorities?

[Markovic] The situation in Serbia is such that the mother country has become the hostage of its periphery, only that the farther away the periphery is, the stronger the greater Serbian passions are. In that logic, those passions are strongest in the regions where there are the fewest Serbs, like, for instance, in Kosovo where 90 percent of the population are ethnic Albanians and the number of Serbs is constantly decreasing, so for that reason they have to make up for that deficit in number by their force, or as the old saying goes, the smaller the bird, the stronger the voice. As you move toward Sandzak and Bosnia-Herzegovina, then toward eastern Slavonia and finally up to Vojvodina, you will see that the mother country is so blocked by aspirations of the periphery that it is actually suffocating, and now the question arises: Who is the hostage of whom? Everybody is accusing Belgrade of being the initiator of the concept of greater Serbia, because the people from the periphery met with approval in the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, in the Serbian Orthodox Church, as well as among the authorities and the opposition, but it is still apparent that the official Belgrade policy is willing to cooperate with the international community. That willingness to cooperate is diminishing as we come nearer to the periphery, and now a relationship is developing as the one between a lord and a vassal, where local barons (local leaders) are getting back on the stage again. If we look at the so-called Krajina, we shall perceive the current division, with Mikelic and Hadzic on one side and Martic on the other, while right now Babic is also becoming a player in the game. If you go across to Bosnia-Herzegovina, you will perceive that the more unfavorable the Karadzic's position is, the more vociferous he is, even though in Serbia itself the authorities have succeeded in bringing the radical nationalists led by Seselj under their control.

The Fate of Peaceful Integration

[Bajrusi] Does that mean that there is a real rift between Milosevic and the leaders of the Bosnian and Croatian

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Serbs, at least with respect to timing regarding the accomplishment of plans?

[Markovic] That is precisely the point. You have seen that Babic was replaced by Martic because he was not obedient enough to Belgrade, whereas now Martic himself is in such a situation. We must not take the bait of the game called "101 Ways to Greater Serbia." It is important that the entire game is well known to us, as well as to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Slovenia. The problem is that right now some people from abroad are willing to take part in all this, and many of them only because they want to make the water even more turbid. Yet, I do not think Croatia has any reason to react hastily, because I am sure that such attempts have no chance of succeeding.

[Bajrusi] Since you have been living in Belgrade for 18 months now, how do you view the appeals of the Croatian Government to the local Serbs that they should accept peaceful integration? A large majority of people believe that Knin will never accept such a settlement.

[Markovic] The term "peaceful integration" has been in use for a long time, however it seems that it is out of the question for the local barons to accept it. Even if such peaceful integration were to happen, Martic is a war criminal as far as we are concerned, and if they continue to behave in such a way, many others may join him in being called so. What is happening today in Bosnia and Sarajevo is no longer a war, but rather a brutal force that wants to sow additional panic and fear in order to make us accept the talks on a third Yugoslavia. Still, I am convinced that such ideas will not meet with regard in any of the newly established states. Those who are making such attempts are only prolonging the sanctions against Serbia, because you can be sure that Croatia will not accept their lifting, as long as its own problem remains unsettled.

[Bajrusi] This, what you are talking about, means that there are no signs of reintegration beginning yet.

[Markovic] This must be the hundredth time we have opened our doors to the process of normalization that is bound up by peaceful reintegration, but one should know that states are not established by proclamations, appeals, or petitions, but rather they have to have strength, and without it Croatia could never survive. Nobody has been granted a state out of mercy. One should show one's capacities in all domains that are essential for a state. Now we can say that we are protagonists in a psychological war, where those who own force deliberately generate chaos by sniper fire aimed at civilians, holding cities under siege, repression against the extremists in Kosovo and Sandzak, and keeping Montenegro or Vojvodina under their control. Yet, such actions are actually counterproductive, because they are using up their potentials as all others are getting stronger. Our people say: Every force has its time. Such forces that oppose the will of the people get used up most quickly.

Milosevic's Power

[Bajrusi] One of the arguments coming from abroad regarding the yielding attitude toward Milosevic is that his fall would give rise to even more radical politicians, which would make the entire situation even more complicated.

[Markovic] That is a speculation that may exist in theory, but if we view it in terms of realistic circumstances in Serbia, we can see that Seselj and his supporters are on the decline. Milosevic's willingness to cooperate is not the result of his generosity, but rather of a realistic state, so I do not see any force that could endanger his position. On the contrary, except for Milosevic and the opposition, you have there also the forces of a European orientation that do exist, but have no possibility to express themselves. Still, it can be expected that those forces will grow stronger, as the ruling party and the opposition are in a setback.

[Bajrusi] With regard to such a situation, what were the reactions in Serbia after Operation Lightning?

[Markovic] The entire time that Operation Lightning was under way, which is to say, all 36 hours, there were no major reactions. On the second and third days, big headlines appeared in the press, on the radio, and on television. They spoke of the Croatian aggression in western Slavonia, but in such a measured way that one could not get an impression that a great danger was threatening. After a week, the media were paying less and less attention to it, while today it is definitely past. On the other hand, the reactions among many foreign diplomats accredited to Belgrade were quite interesting. They commented on our action with apparent satisfaction, which proves that we had been acting with restraint for too long. However, with this action we have shown that we know how to take a smart, cooperative, and firm attitude, which is the guarantee for our future and statehood, and that we shall be able to not only accomplish our state borders but also preserve them.

Bosnian Envoy Claims UN 'Made Deal With Serbs'

AU1807195195 Split SLOBODNA DALMACIJA in Serbo-Croatian 16 Jul 95 pp 4-5

[Interview with Kasim Trnka, ambassador of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina to Croatia, by Visnja Gotal;

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place and date not given: "The United Nations Made an Agreement With the Serbs About Srebrenica"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "It is symptomatic that all the international factors are making orchestrated statements about no longer being able to protect the UN safe havens, although they took on the responsibility to do so, and about their inability to oppose the Serbs, whereas NATO claims that it has not been asked to intervene," Mr. Kasim Trnka, the ambassador of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina to Croatia, told us. He was visibly irritated by the news about the current events regarding the fall of Srebrenica that were broadcast by Croatian radio during the interview. "This is frustrating and worrying," Trnka said.

[Gotal] What is the cause of the "orchestration"?

[Trnka] The world is obviously fed up with this war and it wants a winner so that it does not have to do anything. It is not at all worried by the fact that it breaks all the principles of a civilized community.

Serbs Want To Extinguish Muslims

[Gotal] How would you comment on the statement issued by Ratko Mladic that if there were any further shelling of Serb positions, they would respond by shooting Muslim refugees in Potocari?

[Trnka] This statement is not at all strange, because they [Serbs] started the war with the goal of extinguishing the Muslim population. This was announced by Karadzic a long time ago; immediately after the free election in Bosnia-Herzegovina, he said that a nation will disappear there. By making these statements, Karadzic and Mladic provided the documentation for The Hague. They are materializing their plan now. They were wrong about one thing, however, they will never succeed in stamping out the Muslims and occupying Bosnia-Herzegovina, because Bosnia-Herzegovina is a serious international factor today, and those who defend multinationalism have a well-equipped army that is able to defend them, including the legitimate Croatian Defense Council [HVO] forces. Today, it is a respectable army that cannot be written off so easily. After three years of war, during which the Serbs have not succeeded in achieving their goals, the only military courage of "the famous and invincible Serbian army" is to kill unprotected civilians and threaten, before the whole world, without any hesitation, to shoot at refugees. They suffered defeat in all military battles.

[Gotal] Why have they taken this action right now and why in Srebrenica?

[Trnka] In this way, by "defeating" the unprotected civilian population, they are trying to enhance the morale of their soldiers, who do not know what they are fighting for. It is a shame for the whole international community that it has remained silent so far. Had any army in the world made a statement like Mladic's, this would have resulted in its complete isolation by the international community. A large number of relevant international powers not only ignore such statements, but they, unfortunately, also help the Serbian plan to materialize. Akashi's statement, in which he claimed that there were no safe havens any more and that the Srebrenica safe haven could not be returned, although he was asked by the UN Security Council to do so, is shameful. On the contrary, the UN Security Council is helping the Serbs to evacuate the civilian population from Srebrenica, thus directly supporting the genocide. Our government not only does not want to communicate with Akashi, but it will also require his resignation from his present post.

[Gotal] Tadeusz Mazowiecki asks himself "for how long can we tolerate actions that put our credibility at stake." What is the role of the UN Protection Force [UNPROFOR] in Bosnia-Herzegovina?

[Trnka] Judging by the events, we are, unfortunately, almost convinced that the United Nations, or at least its leadership, has made a deal with the Serbs, on the hostages and Srebrenica, that is a direct collaboration. Our government will now discuss the requirement for their withdrawal from Bosnia-Herzegovina after the expiry of their mandate in November.

[Gotal] Will this not result in a humanitarian catastrophe?

[Trnka] We already have a humanitarian catastrophe. All those who opposed the UNPROFOR withdrawal operated with the statement that the safe havens would fall and that there would be a humanitarian catastrophe. Unfortunately, the United Nations is still here and a safe haven has still fallen.

[Gotal] What will this mean for other enclaves?

[Trnka] Karadzic is already threatening the fall of Zepa and Gorazde; and Sarajevo too. He is a master of propaganda. In this way, he is trying to spread panic in these zones. This must not happen. He was taught a lesson in Sarajevo, and he will be taught an even better one, because our operation is going on. He cannot do the same thing in Gorazde as in Srebrenica. In Srebrenica, we complied strictly with the 1993 agreement on the demilitarization of that zone. In other words, the Serb heroism boils down to the occupation of a demilitarized zone. Unfortunately, the situation in Zepa is relatively difficult, although the

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people there are making painstaking efforts. In any case, Sarajevo and Gorazde will not fall.

The Hypocrite Akashi

[Gotal] You say that Srebrenica was a demilitarized zone, and the Serbs claim to have suffered heavy losses there.

[Trnka] They have to find something to justify their action. During the fiercest clashes in Srebrenica, they reported through their media that what was going on in Srebrenica was internal Muslim clashes and that they had nothing to do with it. I believe that this propaganda is no longer convincing, not even for the Serbs.

[Gotal] Who would you blame for the fall of Srebrenica?

[Trnka] The United Nations first of all, since it was in charge of protecting the safe areas. Not only did it not protect them, but it also failed to take all the measures it could: air strikes. Immediately before the fall of Srebrenica, I met Akashi at the opening ceremony of the Dubrovnik Summer Festival, and I told him that the situation in Srebrenica was critical. He said that he would discuss it with Milosevic. I also told him that the Muslim population considered him responsible for not having called for air strikes, and he answered: "I am not a soldier. I could not have asked for such a thing." I also told him that he had a chance to rehabilitate himself by requiring air strikes. He refused. He called for them when everything was over. A very hypocritical move. He demonstrated an overdue, weak power when nothing could be done any more.

[Gotal] Mr. Jacques Chirac has now offered French military help for the reestablishment of Srebrenica as a safe haven. How do you interpret Chirac's move and this turn in the French policy?

[Trnka] He is offering a military action only on condition that the United Nations agrees, and he knows that it will not agree. I find it strange for such a politician to risk his reputation in such a way. At the beginning of his mandate, he simply wants to achieve a significant political point in the public in order to present himself as a supporter of democracy. This does not cost him anything, since he knows that his offer will not be adopted by the UN Security Council. I really do not know why he is selling his esteem in such a cheap way. We respect French public opinion, because it is just, but French politics are not, this has been known since Mitterrand's time.

[Gotal] The Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina has addressed a letter to Mr. Bob Dole regarding the lifting of the arms embargo in which it was stated that if the United States failed to contribute to its lifting, it would be considered as having directly participated in the genocide. Is there a real chance of the lifting of the arms embargo?

[Trnka] I think so, because both the public and the media support it. Congress has also voted with a two-thirds majority for that proposal. The same thing must now be done by the Senate, and if there is a two-thirds majority, President Clinton will have no chance to refuse it. In that case, it has to be borne in mind that the lifting of the embargo is a very complicated operation, because, first of all, arms would have to be brought into the country and, secondly, it would be necessary to train the personnel in how to use the highly sophisticated weapons. Therefore we do not see the lifting of the arms embargo as a magic wand, but we do think that it would enable the achievement of a psychological balance regarding military power and create the conditions for serious peace talks.

We Have Been Humiliated Enough!

[Gotal] Speaking about peace talks, the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina says that it supports the Contact Group plan and that it will keep on working on a dialogue, however, it also claims that the final decision of its army is the military option.

[Trnka] Our decision on the military option is not final; we said that if all peace initiatives failed, then we had to be prepared for that option too. We can claim this now. At the beginning of the war, when we had no army, when there were the victims, when there was no cooperation with the HVO, and when there was already a military conflict, the situation was different. The situation has changed completely, and we can claim to be able to accept the military option if all other options fail.

[Gotal] Silajdzic's statement about the intention to invite volunteers to fight against the fascism in Bosnia-Herzegovina fits into what you are saying.

[Trnka] I would say that asking democratic people to fight for universal human values is one of the extreme measures we could be forced to take. Naturally, we shall invite our citizens first, hoping that their patriotic and national consciousness will make them join us.

[Gotal] Does this primarily refer to Islamic countries?

[Trnka] Why? Of course not. Aren't there people in Europe who also think that it would be worth fighting for these goals? I think there are. They should come here like they went to Spain. We have been humiliated enough.

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[Gotal] To what extent has the present situation affected the action that was taken to break the siege of Sarajevo? Has it perhaps been given up because of it?

[Trnka] No, no. It is going on, and, as I have already mentioned, the Srebrenica action is Mladic's attempt to draw attention away from his failures, not only in Sarajevo, but in the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina and I could say in Croatia too. The forces deployed in Srebrenica are the only Serb forces that are active, together with those from the occupied areas of Croatia. These actions are taken only to restore the morale among their soldiers, that is why they are celebrated as victories. Although the use of the term "victory" is disgusting in connection with Srebrenica. Speaking about the morale for fighting, it is only natural that people who fight for freedom have higher morale than those who occupy areas in which there is not a single Serb. They do not know why they are actually occupying those areas.

There Must Be Understanding for Russia

[Gotal] The Russian Duma has again condemned the NATO action and is requiring the preservation of the status quo.

[Trnka] There must be understanding for Russia. I discussed this problem with the Russian ambassador to Croatia. Russia cannot have a consistent policy, because the executive power has one policy and the legislative power has a completely different attitude. The media is a third problem. It must be remembered, however, that Russia recognized Bosnia-Herzegovina and established diplomatic relations. In other words, there have been positive moves too.

[Gotal] Has the survival of Tuzla been put at stake because of the fall of Srebrenica?

[Trnka] There is no chance of the fall of Tuzla. Speaking about Tuzla, the refugees from Srebrenica will be accommodated there. Since this wave of refugees is enormous, we are confronted with huge financial difficulties. Therefore I would like to use this opportunity to ask humanitarian organizations to enable these people to be taken care of.

Portuguese Diplomat's Statements Cause Rift

BR1807152095 Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 15 Jul 95 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "Portuguese Diplomat Creates Confusion in Former Yugoslavia"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Statements attributed to a Portuguese diplomat by the Serbian and Croatian press have caused friction between the Zagreb and Lisbon governments. The Croatian ambassador to Portugal contacted the Foreign Ministry twice in order to request explanations. It all ended with the diplomat at issue denying the reports and criticizing the journalists, whom he accused of "misinterpreting" his remarks, "published out of context."

Jose Manuel da Costa Arsenio is the head of the Portuguese delegation with the EU Observer Mission in Zagreb. Last Monday, the diplomat went to Erdut, a Croatian city under Serb occupation, where he met with the authorities. Arsenio's visit and his statements to journalists were reported by the Belgrade press on the following day and by the Zagreb newspapers Wednesday. Explosive statements.

"Eastern Slavonia Will Be Part of Serbia," was the three-column headline in VJESNIK, Croatia's leading newspaper for political information. Referring to the regions of eastern Slavonia, Baranja, and Srem, Costa Arsenio reportedly stated that "in the near future, they will become part of Serbia through negotiations with Croatia and with the international community's acquiescence." The fact is that, despite being under Serb occupation, those three regions are regarded, both by the United Nations and by the EU, as forming part of the Republic of Croatia. Arsenio, who has been in Zagreb since 1992, reportedly explained that the international community "is not ready to withdraw its premature recognition of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina but, in the case of eastern Slavonia, Baranja, and Srem, it would probably be prepared, following a negotiating process, to acquiesce in the alteration of the administrative borders which it previously recognized."

"Echo of Bombshell"

The Portuguese diplomat's statements provoked a swift reaction. The Croatian Foreign Ministry instructed its ambassador in Lisbon to ask the Necessidades Palace [Foreign Ministry] for explanations. With that aim, Marko Zaja contacted European Department director Joao Lima Pimentel on Wednesday.

This initiative was disclosed by the Zagreb government in a communique reported by most of the news media. The aforementioned newspaper, VJESNIK, devoted an editorial to the affair, under the revealing headline "Double Game." "The inhabitants of Slavonia and Baranja are indignant," asserted the editorialist, in whose opinion Arsenio's statements had "the echo of a bombshell which destroys all Croatia's attempts to peacefully recover its occupied areas." The newspaper emphasized the economic importance of those regions, which are oil-bearing and have excellent land for agriculture and hunting, as well as dense forests of oak

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trees. Starting from the Portuguese diplomat's opinion, the editorialist generalized in order to conclude that "this means that the international community has played a double game."

Diplomat's Denial

In the face of the chorus of protests, on Thursday, Costa Arsenio contacted the Croatian Foreign Ministry, denying the statements attributed to him by the press. In addition, a statement by the diplomat was distributed by the Croatian HINA news agency. In that statement, Arsenio complains of the newspapers' "abuse" and the fact that his statements were "taken out of context." However, he admits that he had an informal conversation with "three people," but that he did not realize that they were journalists. "It seems to me that in the 'Eastern Sector,'" Arsenio told HINA, "there is a certain tendency among people to separate from Knin (capital of the self-proclaimed Serbian Republic of Croatia [as published]), and join Yugoslavia." The diplomat also asserts that those populations "already depend on Belgrade's economy, administration, and even military defense." But he acknowledges, however, that in terms of international law the territories at issue are an integral part of Croatia.

Around 1500 on the same day, Ambassador Marko Zaja went personally to the Foreign Ministry, where Lima Pimentel informed him of the denial made by Costa Arsenio. A Croatian Embassy spokesman told EXPRESSO that that Foreign Ministry official conveyed "the Portuguese Government's unreserved support for Croatia's territorial integrity."

Contacted in Zagreb, Costa Arsenio claimed that he is not authorized by the Foreign Ministry to make statements to the newspapers. In the meantime, an official source at [Foreign Minister] Durao Barroso's office stated yesterday that "the matter has now been clarified and closed." The same opinion was expressed by the spokesman of the Croatian Embassy in Lisbon.

RSK Report Apportions Blame for Slavonia Loss

LD1807203595 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1704 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Belgrade, 18 Jul (TANJUG)—Milan Martic, president of the Republic of Serb Krajina [RSK], bears the greatest responsibility for the tragic outcome of the Croatian aggression against western Slavonia. This is the view held by the State Commission of the Krajina Parliament published by POLITIKA.

The five-member commission, formed on 18 May, has submitted to the RSK Assembly a proposal according to which the responsibility of President Martic should be examined "for failing to meet his obligations in the sphere of defense which led to the 'disgraceful defeat in western Slavonia.'"

The second place on the list of responsibility is held by Colonel General Milan Celeketic, commander of the Krajina Army, whom the commission charges with "failing to organize the system of defense in western Slavonia and indulging in politics instead of defense matters."

According to the commission's findings, responsibility should also be borne by Colonel Lazo Babic, commander of the 18th Corps, "for violating the international agreement on opening the Belgrade-Zagreb highway, signed by the RSK"; by the commanders of two infantry brigades, namely Lieutenant Colonels Milanko Babic and Stevo Dabac, "for their poor line of command"; Lieutenant Colonel Borivoje Pavlovic, commander of the tactical group, "for deserting his unit"; Aran Dragicevic, president of the Okucani municipality; Drago Veselinovic, secretary of the Okucani Secretariat of Internal Affairs; and Stevan Kresovic, head of this secretariat, "for failing to carry out his designated duties."

According to POLITIKA, the commision comprising representatives of the Ministry for Internal Affairs, the Serb Army of Krajina, and the RSK Assembly, was tasked with finding an answer to three questions: How did western Slavonia fall, why did it fall, and who was responsible for its fall?

Having examined a considerable amount of evidence, the commission reached the conclusion that the 18th Corps was no match for the aggressor forces.

In its offensive Croatia deployed far superior and better equipped troops, whereas the Serb corps was handicapped by its obligation under the Vance Plan to keep its troops and its heavy weaponry and hardware in separate locations. This is, however, no excuse for the poor organization of defense in western Slavonia.

POLITIKA also reveals the commission's conclusion according to which "instead of consolidating western Slavonia's defenses, Martic and Celeketic toured the area, stirring up false hopes of defense and even further conquests."

According to the commission, "the command lines at the corps level and the General Staff failed to correctly acknowledge the first indications of aggression, although they had quite convincing reports."

The Knin headquarters realized too late that the line of defense was crumbling, something that resulted in a lack of support and coordination from other units. As for the promise of assistance from the [Bosnian] Serb Republic,

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it could not have materialized because, as stated in the report, "it was not clear who would have taken command of the allied armies in the event of aggression."

Once they realized that they could no longer carry on without the assistance that had been promised to them and that very poor moves were being made "in the distant corps headquarters, 'the fighters and officers started to revolt as they realized that they had been swindled,'" POLITIKA writes in its report on the Krajina State Commission's report.

Krajina Serb Army Protests 5th Corps Attacks

LD1407183695 Belgrade FONET in Serbo-Croatian 1639 GMT 14 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Knin, 14 Jul (FONET)—Mile Mrksic, commander in chief of the Serb Krajina Army, in connection with the increasingly frequent attacks by the 5th Corps of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army on the territory of the Republic of Serb Krajina, today sent a letter of protest to General Bernard Janvier, commander of the UN peacekeeping forces, ISKRA reports.

"I inform you that members of Alija Izetbegovic's 5th Corps carried out an act of aggression on the villages of Komesarac, Kruskovaca, and Lukici in the Kordun region [northwest of Bihac] on 13 July," the letter says.

Mrksic adds that the Sarajevo government forces prior to the attack passed close by a UN post and, he said, "the UN units did nothing to stop the attack."

"In view of the fact that this is now the second attack in the past two months, we give a warning that in future we will no longer tolerate such attacks by members of the 5th Muslim Corps," Mrksic stresses. [passage omitted]

Arkan Denies Interfering With RSK Assembly

AU1807154195 Belgrade NASA BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 18 Jul 95 p 9

[Article by D. Petrovic: "We Are Not Political Police"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "As the commander of the Tigers, I maintain with full responsibility that my volunteers did not prevent the session of the Krajina Assembly," Zeljko Raznatovic Arkan, the first man of the Serbian Volunteer Guard, said in a statement for NASA BORBA. The statement was issued in connection with the claims launched by some media that one of the units of the Serbian Volunteer Guard, with the assistance of the members of the Ministry of Internal affairs of the Republic of Serbian Krajina [RSK] and the Serbian Army of Krajina, blocked Mirkovci last Wednesday, thus preventing the deputies of the Krajina Assembly from holding the scheduled session.

"The first front line on which our men are constantly present is precisely 800 meters away from the center of Mirkovci and it is normal, that is if somebody truly saw soldiers with our insignia, for the soldiers of the Serbian Volunteer Guard to go there to buy cigarettes and do their shopping," Mr. Raznatovic says.

Asked to comment on the story by a Krajina policeman, carried by Belgrade Radio B-92, according to which the order about the blockade of Mirkovci and the prevention of the RSK Assembly session had arrived from the cabinet of the Serbian president, Arkan replied that "this is a great stupidity and nothing but a lie."

"We did not carry out anyone's orders. We are not political police. We are present in Krajina on a volunteer basis, and our primarily task is to defend the Serbian people from genocide and not to meddle in politics. We are always with people and always on the first front line," our collocutor said.

However, we could not understand how several domestic media of great reputation and credibility reported on the events in Mirkovici almost identically. "Well, you know how it is. There are many ill-intentioned people and there is the fifth column that is trying to tarnish our entire struggle," Mr. Raznatovic assessed. "I tell you, perhaps some of my men went to buy cigarettes and accidentally ended up in the center of Mirkovici."

At the end, the commander of the Tigers said that the situation in eastern Slavonia was very stable. "Where we are, you can freely write this, Tudjman does not stand a chance," Zeljko Raznatovic Arkan said.

Serbs View Obstacles to Army Operation in Baranja

AU1407123295

[FBIS Editorial Report] Novi Sad DNEVNIK in Serbo-Croatian in its 11 July issue on page 5 carries a military analysis of the strategic characteristics of Baranja, in former Sector East, and the difficulties the the Croatian Army would encounter in a forceful reintegration of this territory.

The author, S.D. Lepsic, quotes a UN Protection Force spokesman in Zagreb when he writes that the Croatian Army has been undertaking "extensive military maneuvers" in the area. "A Croatian special forces unit has been training in the area of Virovitica for months, and the training is taking place in a marsh similar to the one in Baranja." Lepsic claims that this unit is being trained by Belgian and Dutch instructors and that it also gets "considerable assistance" from the UN Belgian battalion stationed in the area. "They were given the task of initially staging small, and later bigger, provocations

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against the members of the Serb Army of Krajina. Their objective is to see the reaction and the actual capacities of the Serb Army of Krajina and then instigate a serious conflict that the members of the Croatian Army would then pounce upon immediately," Lepsic explains.

Lepsic then examines possible obstacles to such an operation and writes: 'The most recent Croatian Army military analyses literally state: "The fact that Baranja borders on the 'FRY' [Federal Republic of Yugoslavia] and Hungary preempts a desirable tactical and operative boosting of the Croatian Army combat troops. The Drava River, which cuts across the combat area, poses a great obstacle to the advancement of the Croatian Armed Forces into Baranja." Here, Lepsic also cites the Croatian Army commander, General Bobetko, who has reportedly also admitted the problem of Baranja: "Croatia can take control of its occupied territories very quickly. The only problem is Baranja, because the liberation of Baranja would mean provoking a war with Serbia. However, we will have to liberate Baranja in any case. Either Serbia agrees to a peaceful European solution, or we wage a war!"

Lepsic further cites conclusions from studies by "senior Croatian officials" that all emphasize that "Baranja and Vukovar pose the most difficult and potentially the most bloody problem within the program of reintegration of the temporarily occupied territories."

Lepsic explains: "It is undisputed that Baranja is geostrategically very unfavorable for Croatia. In the case of a possible attack, the direction of the Croatian Army action would be very limited. Namely, the Croatian strategists assess that Baranja could be accessed by tactically operative leaps across the Drava River on the Donji Miholjac-Osijek stretch. The option of the Croatian Army penetration in Baranja from the area east of Osijek is also feasible, however, only after they have liberated all of the territory of eastern Slavonia. An option of first occupying Baranja and then moving onto Vukovar and other towns in Sector East is also on the table."

"The Croatian masterminds of liberating operations are aware that the surprise factor would simply be out of the question in the case of Baranja. The grouping of the Croatian Army units would take place on a very limited territory, as such are the geostrategic conditions that would invite the attention and a rapid counterattack of the Serbian Army of Krajina. It would be even harder to camouflage all the preparations for the forcing [forsiranje] of the Drava River, the preparation of access roads, the choice of the location for the crossing, and so forth," Lepsic writes.

He cites the opinion of Major Gen. Karlo Gorinsek, who was in charge of the Croatian Army operations in eastern Slavonia in 1991 and 1992, on additional difficulties: "The forces that would attack the enemy from the rear would play the crucial role in a successful action of the leap across the Drava River, however, the Croatian Army does not have such forces in Baranja nor can she have any in the present circumstances because to the rear of the combat positions of the Baranja Serbs lies the territory of Hungary and on the flank, the Danube River, that is, the territory of the FRY....".

"Gorinsek warns that, in the process of crossing the Drava River, the Croatian Army units would be subjected to powerful gun, rocket, and tank fire of the Baranja Serb units and also to the air strikes of their fighter planes. The other bank and Baranja's hinterland are bound to be mined in all areas that allow tactical advances, which would additionally slow down the progress of the Croatian Army."

Finally, Lepsic also cites the Croatian military assessment: "The Serbs will not change their strategy. They would wage a battle from a distance against the Croatian Army units, without running any major risk for their own forces, because they possess modern and lethal artillery of great explosive power, high firing speed, and huge destructive power."

"Great losses on both sides, a huge devastation of Belisce, Valpovo, Osijek, Vinkovici, and also Darda and Beli Manastir as well as other grave consequences are inevitable."

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Bartoszewski on FINANCIAL TIMES Interview

WS1907103495 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 19 Jul 95 p 1

[Article by Artur Domoslawski, "MI," and Jacek Kalabinski in Washington: "Bartoszewski's Clear Voice"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Wladyslaw Bartoszewski criticizes the government of Democratic U.S. President Bill Clinton for being too soft with Russia: "All progress in relations with Russia was made under Republican rule—Nixon, Reagan, and Bush. What we need is a strong, clear voice."

Bartoszewski said the above in an interview published by the FINANCIAL TIMES yesterday. The minister of foreign affairs also stated that Poland will be ready to join NATO in two years.

Bartoszewski doubts whether the Clinton administration will be sufficiently involved in NATO expansion. He does expect, however, that a Republican will win next year's elections in the United States. He said Senator Robert Dole, one of the most serious contenders for the presidential office, assured him he will support Poland's accession to NATO.

Yesterday, upon his return from Brussels, Minister Bartoszewski explained to journalists what he had meant: "It is both true and untrue. Something got confused. I did not say anything on what the Polish Government expects because I do not know what it expects. I would have to ask the whole government."

"I pointed out there will be two presidential candidates and that one of them is a Republican," said Bartoszewski. "Most probably, although it still remains uncertain, it will be Mr. Dole."

"We have always seen the Republicans to be far more active than the Democrats. I spoke about history. I am a historian. The Democrats are responsible for Yalta; the Democrats are responsible for Potsdam; the Democrats failed to do anything about the Soviet Union. The Republicans did manage to do something: Nixon with China, Reagan with Gorbachev, Bush...."

"I did not wish anyone luck or failure because that is none of my business. I said we are disappointed with the hitherto action of the U.S. Administration in helping Poland enter NATO. Are we not? Are public opinion and the media not continually complaining that nobody heeds our pleas, that it took the German chancellor to come here to make a clear statement? The Americans are not speaking clearly. It was not very diplomatic of me to say that Polish society and not the Polish government thinks so. The Polish Government does not say anything. The Polish Government respects the U.S. Government. This does not mean that the government, parliament, and the coalition parties are not critical of the U.S. Administration," said Bartoszewski, concluding his statement.

"It seems that the FINANCIAL TIMES published Bartoszewski's statements out of context," an anonymous White House officer told GAZETA WYBORCZA yesterday.

Senator Robert Dole's spokesman said that, although the senator supports NATO expansion and thinks Poland should be the first to join, it is imprudent to expect that the Republicans can make the decision on expanding the pact on their own.

[GAZETA WYBORCZA carries the following commentary by Helena Luczywo on Bartoszewski's statements underneath the above report: "Minister Bartoszewski is one of the wisest and most popular Polish politicians; he also is one of the most respected ones abroad. It seems, however, that he sometimes speaks in haste: Can the Clinton administration be blamed for Yalta and Potsdam? Were Kennedy, Johnson, and Carter more yielding to the Kremlin than Nixon and Ford?"]

Daily Criticizes Anti-Clinton Remarks

WS1907105195 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 19 Jul 95 p 5

[Commentary by "Z.S.": "Polish Minister Elects the U.S. President"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

The foreign minister of the Polish Republic has caused tension between Warsaw and Washington. We Poles may have various opinions on the Clinton administration, even very negative ones. And there is no reason to hide them. That is the only point we can agree on with the head of Polish diplomacy.

This does not apply to the remaining remarks. Minister Bartoszewski's words involve our state, which he represents in making public statements, in the presidential campaign in the United States. He said himself he was expressing the views of the Polish nation and supported a specific U.S. party. What would we say, what would Minister Bartoszewski himself say if Warren Christopher publicly said that he is disappointed with Lech Walesa and is waiting for the election of Aleksander Kwasniewski, which he thinks is very probably only a matter of time?

What if Senator Robert Dole, the U.S. presidential candidate Bartoszewski pointed to, loses the election?

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The chief diplomat is expected to seek allies for Poland and Polish policies and not make enemies or cause an unfriendly atmosphere.

Rightist Candidate Claims Ballot Results False

WS1807112595 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 18 Jul 95 p 2

[Article by "M.D.Z.": "Father Maj: Olszewski Gave False Ballot Results; The Results of the 'Conclave' Will Be Revealed"]

[FBIS Translated Text] *Father Jozef Maj, patron of St. Catherine's Covenant, intends to reveal the results of a secret ballot that was held during a "conclave" of the center-right in Sulejowek. Father Maj was the only person who knew the results, and he shared his knowledge with the candidates themselves. He has now decided to disclose the results in response to press report, which Father Maj states are untrue, claiming that Jan Olszewski received eight votes, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz four, and Leszek Moczulski two.*

During a news conference, Jan Olszewski confirmed results published by the press. "They were just as you wrote," he said. The two remaining candidates, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz and Leszek Moczulski, said, however, that the ballot results, both in terms of the number of votes cast and their sequence, were different than the papers relayed. The center-rightists who support Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz claim that she won the ballot by receiving seven votes. Jan Olszewski received five, and Leszek Moczulski two.

"Jan Olszewski confirmed untrue results," we learned yesterday from Father Maj, who intends to announce the results in public. The prelate, however, may make that decision only after consulting candidates for the Covenant's primaries. He has already asked Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz for her opinion and is currently asking for Leszek Moczulski's support. "I do not intend to consult Mr. Jan Olszewski because he violated our agreement and took up the topic of the results in public, giving a false account at that. He did not rectify his untrue statement; therefore, I am under no obligation to consult him on the issue," Father Maj told us.

NIK Audit of Defense Ministry Reveals Losses

WS1807125595 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 18 Jul 95 p 3

[Report by "LUZ": "The Armed Forces: NIK Audits MON; Undisciplined Military Finances"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ministry of National Defense [MON] lost nearly 1.8 billion old zlotys by dismissing and reemploying the same people within the frameworks of a restructuring project in one of its central agencies. Practices followed in another ministerial agency may have caused even greater losses as officers and their families were paid extra money for services that were part of their regular duties.

Such are the findings of an audit carried out by the Supreme Chamber of Control [NIK], which checked how MON had adhered to its budget last year.

For the first time, NIK audited the budget of the 36th Special Air Regiment in Okecie, a regiment responsible for organizing flights for top state officials. "In the course of the audit, certain malpractices were discovered in the area of extrabudgetary economy and recovering damages," NIK informed the Sejm Defense Commission which had commissioned the audit. The auditors decided to return to Okecie and take a close look at who flew the regiment planes and where, whether the trips were official, and who paid for them.

As we may remember, the defense minister wanted to recall the head of the NIK national defense team immediately after the decision to inspectthe 36th regiment was known. After protests from the then NIK head Lech Kaczynski, it was decided that the head of the military team will remain in NIK until mid-September.

Extra Income

Summing up the previous year, NIK stated that MON did not always implement its budget properly. There were "unwarranted" costs involved with dissolving the Military Information Institute and replacing it with the Information Center of the General Staff. Employees were first dismissed and given compensation pay only to be reemployed soon afterwards. The operation cost MON Z1.766 billion [old currency].

The auditors also found that the chief commander of the MON Communications Center, his deputy, and members of their families made extra money by performing commissioned construction and renovation work as part of their standard duties. Commissions (e.g. for renovating cable distribution boxes or only changing the cables) were not entered in any accounts, neither were the terms of payment specified. No one officially confirmed that the work was actually done or checked whether it was done properly.

The Prosecutor's Office of the Warsaw Military District is already investigating the matter. "It is too early to say who will be charged with what," says Prosecutor Colonel Andrzej Komarski.

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Overdue Ammunition

The Military Prosecutor's Office, this time in Lublin, is investigating another affair disclosed by NIK last year. The Chamber found that just one contract signed with Product-Pol 1, a company purchasing waste metal, caused MON to suffer losses in the amount of Z9 billion [old currency]. The Ministry sold several tonnes of overdue artillery ammunition below its real value. Experts are currently trying to establish whether MON could have earned as much as NIK claims it has on the deal.

NIK has also discovered that in the previous year internal regulations of the MON Budget Commission were violated. The Commission recommended that all proceeds from sales of arms and equipment in the particular military units be paid to those units' accounts. The money from 10 contracts, however, was paid to the general account of the MON Finance Department. It is now impossible to check where it went and whether the proper percent of each transaction was paid to the State Budget.

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Melescanu Views Paris Tripartite Talks

AU1807202095 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Romanian Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu returned to Bucharest tonight from Paris, where he met with French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette and FRG Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel. The tripartite meeting was mainly devoted to marking Romania's transition to a new stage, after Romania has presented its request for adherence to the EU. In a press statement made on his arrival at Otopeni airport, Mr. Teodor Melescanu reviewed the results of the talks for our correspondent, Daniela Simionescu:

[Begin recording] The talks I conducted in Paris concluded with the adoption of a political declaration of the three foreign ministers. The declaration reiterates the firm support of two important EU countries, France and Germany, for Romania's integration into the European structures, primarily the EU, but also into other structures such as the Western European Union and NATO. Likewise, the two countries reiterated their support for the continuation of the process of democratic transformation and economic change in Romania, particularly at the time of the start of the mass privatization program. If we consider that this tripartite meeting in Paris was preceded in London by a meeting with the third very important EU country, we can see the scope of the new stage we have entered now, namely the stage of concrete actions, as I have just said, to achieve our major strategic targets.

I would also like to add that we discussed a number of concrete issues on this occasion. We made an offer for concrete cooperative actions in the political, economic, and military spheres among the three countries and emphasized the particular contribution that this cooperation can make to ensuring stability and security in our region and at the European level. I can also tell you that we presented a list of concrete economic projects, a list of infrastructure projects, which we would like to achieve with the priority participation of the respective two countries, that is with the participation of businessmen from France and Germany in Romania.

Finally, we also discussed other concrete subjects of great importance, such as the liberalization of visas for travel by Romanian citizens to the respective two countries and the EU member countries in general. Of course, in the current circumstances, we also tackled certain concrete aspects of the situation in our region, such as the problems linked to the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina and former Yugoslavia, in general, as well as concrete ways and means in which all of us, separately and together, can contribute to accelerating the negotiations on identifying political solutions to this crisis. [end recording]

Spokesman Deplores Eurodeputies' Ignorance

AU1807130295 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1000 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Here is the statement made by Presidential Spokesman Ambassador Traian Chebeleu for Radio Romania's Current Events program and ROMPRES national news agency in connection with the resolution adopted on 13 July by the European Parliament referring to the observance of human rights in Romania, particularly the rights of persons who belong to national minorities:

[Begin recording] [Chebeleu] It is clear that the resolution of the European Parliament endorsed on 13 July was passed through lack of knowledge and by ignoring facts.

According to our information, this resolution was initiated by Otto von Habsburg, a person well known in Romania for his imperial nostalgia and his constant anti-Romanian attitude. Therefore, I think that very few people in the Romanian political arena are surprised by this initiative. However, what is really surprising for us is the fact that the Eurodeputies did not make a minimum effort, the way one would have expected them to do, to strive and get to know the situation that the initiators of the resolution criticize. Had they done so, they would have seen that the authors base their assertions on data that, in the best of cases, are incomplete and on false and tendentious information. Hence, I believe that the ease with which the Eurodeputies spoke out on an issue on which they have not been completely informed is thought-provoking and only raises questions regarding their credibility or their stand, at least in the Romanian public opinion.

I believe that the provision included in that resolution will have to be answered point by point by our authorized institutions and the best way will have to be found to present that response to the Eurodeputies. [end recording]

PUNR Calls For Urgent Parliament Session

AU1807140795 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1000 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Romanian National Unity Party [PUNR] issued a statement today in connection with the European Parliament resolution on protection of minorities' rights and observance of human rights in Romania.

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After noting that the resolution was initiated by deputy Otto von Habsburg—quote, a declared enemy of Romania who, for dozens of years has been working in all possible ways to dismember the Romanian unitary national state and rebuild the Austro-Hungarian empire, end quote—the PUNR assesses in the statement that this deputy deliberately misinformed the European Parliament, misled it, and placed it in the embarrassing situation of having adopted a resolution that is in complete contradiction with the realities prevailing in Romanian society. His action also places the European Parliament in a situation to exercise, through lack of knowledge, pressure on Romania's Constitutional Court, which is currently examining the UDMR [Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania] complaint regarding the lack of constitutionality of the education law, a complaint supported through signatures by PNTCD [National Peasant Christian-Democratic Party], PL 93 [Liberal Party '93], PNL [National Liberal Party], PNL-CD [National Liberal Party-Democratic Convention], PD [Democratic Party], and PSDR [Romanian Social-Democratic Party] parliamentarians. In the view of the PUNR Standing Bureau, the parties that sign the statement bear a serious responsibility for the political protection constantly granted to the UDMR in the domestic and foreign arena.

The PUNR calls on the European Parliament, as a sign of respect for the Romanian people and for the truth, not to persist in the regrettable error committed on 13 July, but reconsider its position on the basis of the thorough documentation gathered in Romania.

Given the serious nature of the assertions contained in the European Parliament's resolution, the PUNR parliamentary groups call on the permanent bureaus of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies to convene an urgent extraordinary session of parliament, in order to formulate the legislature's official position, regarding the serious injury and unjustified accusations directed against the Romanian people and democratic institutions in Romania.

Court Refutes Objections to Education Law

AU1907055595 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The plenary session of the Constitutional Court examined the various objections to the Law on Education—adopted by the joint session of the two parliament chambers on 28 June—for its alleged failure to conform with the constitutional provisions. To check the soundness of these complaints, the Court took into account not only the provisions of Romania's Constitution, but also the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the pacts and other treaties in which Romania is a party. The Council also examined the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights. The plenary session of the Constitutional Court reached the conclusion that the provisions of the Law on Education, which were the subject of their check, equally comply with the requirements of Romania's Constitution and with the international norms in the sphere of education and teaching—a communique of the Constitutional Court reads.

PRM's Tudor Prepares To Run for Presidency

AU1807170795 Bucharest EVENIMENTUL ZILEI in Romanian 14 Jun 95 pp 1-2

[Article by Ciprian Radavoi: "Corneliu Vadim Tudor Has Started His Electoral Campaign for Romania's Presidency"]

[FBIS Translated Text] An article signed by Reserve Colonel Doctor Gheorghe Romanescu in POLITICA [weekly of the Greater Romania Party—PRM] clarifies all question raised by the recent campaign waged by Corneliu Vadim Tudor against President Ion Iliescu: Tudor, the PRM leader, is preparing to run for Romania's presidency! Aside from the homage paid to C.V. Tudor on more than a full page of the newspaper—something that would have made even Nicolae Ceausescu die of envy—this idea is also suggested by a photograph showing the PRM president and Romania's president facing each other like two cocks ready to fight.

In the article "Candidates to Romania's Presidency and Their Real Chances"—which seems to be a combination of threats against kulaks taken over from the proletarian-cultist literature and the odes dedicated to Ceausescu by poets like C.V. Tudor—the PRM leader is described as "the one who truly loves his nation" and as a man who is "firm and unflinching in his determination to devote his life to taking Romania out of the state in which it currently finds itself." He is called upon by "an ever larger number of Romanians, peasants, workers, intellectuals, pensioners, and soldiers" to lead the state. He is a "dynamic and energetic man, animated by great ideas and the cleanest Romanian sentiments." He is the man who "works day and night to give intellectual nourishment to millions of Romanians through the two magazines he runs." Finally, he is the man "toward whom the hopes of those who use their arms and minds to actually produce something are turning," the only one who "pays attention to the cries of the disappointed nation and who feels for the pain of children, old people, workers, and peasants."

In his delirium, the author of the article compares C.V. Tudor to Vaclav Havel or Avram Iancu [Romanian leader of the 1848 revolution in Transylvania] and even proclaims that he will be a true "Marshal Antonescu

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[Romania's World War II leader], capable of making order in the country."

As a matter of fact, C.V. Tudor's vocation to make order in the country is one of the recurring themes of the article. The PRM leader is considered to be a kind of Vlad Tepes [medieval ruler of Wallachia], while the opposition leaders are warned: "The sword of justice is hovering over your heads." Vadim Tudor is praised for "his fearless opposition to the cloud of scum fomented by the opposition and its backers" and he is presented as "having increasingly matured in the battle he is waging on the political plane with all the country's enemies and traitors." The newspaper's readers are called upon to wish him much health and to be alongside him "under the national flag and the White Flag with the Brancoveanu Vulture Emblem."

To the image of defender of the Army or friend of less privileged people that the PRM president has carefully carved for himself through his own publications or with the help of the Romanian Television, one should now add, through the POLITICA article, the image of the judge, all of which is indicative of the start of an electoral campaign that also includes attacks against the country's president.

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Federal

Diplomat on Interest in Cooperation With OSCE

LD1807213195 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2126 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, July 18 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia is very interested in co-operating with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Yugoslav diplomat Zlatan Kikic said here on Tuesday.

Kikic was speaking at the close of the international conference marking the 20th anniversary since the signing of the final document of the organization, which was called at the time the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Kikic said Yugoslavia had been one of the CSCE's founders, and said following the outbreak of the crisis in the former Yugoslav Federation, Yugoslavia alone had been unjustly blamed for current tragic events.

Kikic, ambassador at the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry, said the article of the Helsinki Final Document regarding unchangeableness of borders had been violated by the dismembering of the former Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia is still making efforts to help find a lasting peace in the former Yugoslavia through direct talks among the warring sides, he said.

Jovanovic Urges Need for 'Political Solution'

AU1807145095 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 18 Jul 95

[Statement by Foreign Minister Vladislav Jovanovic following talks with Adrian Nastase, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Romanian Parliament, in Belgrade on 18 July—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] We had brief talks. Mr. Nastase has just been to see President Milosevic. That meeting, just like our regular meetings with our Romanian friends, was very useful. We agreed that our mutual interest was in promoting further our bilateral relations and cooperation, particularly after the sanctions are lifted, which we expect should happen soon.

We also discussed the situation in our region, in connection with the former Bosnia-Herzegovina, and we agreed that only a political solution is possible, that only the path of peace should be taken, and that all the alternate paths are for adventurers and irresponsible elements. We are convinced that the overwhelming feeling in the world is that the political solution is the only one possible. For this reason we are convinced that we will avoid the worst that could happen, and that the peace process could be strengthened and lead to some concrete results.

Serbia

Romania's Nastase Begins Visit, Meets Officials

Discusses Bosnia With Milosevic

AU1807204895 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] No political solution to the Bosnian crisis can be achieved without involving the Belgrade political leaders in this process, Mr. Adrian Nastase, speaker of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies, said in a statement made to our radio station after his meeting with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic in Belgrade today. The Romanian parliamentary leader emphasized that a speedy political solution is also closely linked to revising the issue of the embargo and sanctions imposed against Belgrade.

Stressing that Romania does not plan to mediate in this conflict, Adrian Nastase said that Bucharest is and will be the partner of those who negotiate and will try to help with finding solutions in view of our status as a Balkan country.

Milosevic Stresses Ties

LD1807161895 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1508 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Belgrade, July 18, (TANJUG)—Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic said Tuesday that Serbia appreciated Romania's objective stance regarding Yugoslav crisis and especially its support to the peace process and the efforts exerted by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for its success.

Milosevic made this statement during a meeting with the Speaker of the Lower House of Romanian Parliament Adrian Nastase.

The greatest importance was attached during the meeting to the endeavors for the lifting of the UN sanctions against Yugoslavia, which represent the hardest obstacle to the establishment of stable peace in the Balkans and whose implementation is deeply contrary to the respect of the principle of equality of states and peoples, a communique of President Milosevic's cabinet said.

The Balkan peoples should independently decide their own future, develop constructive cooperation and realize mutual interests on the basis of equality in order to avoid becoming a scene of confrontations which are often incited by interests having nothing in common

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with the legitimate interests of the Balkan peoples, it was underlined during the meeting.

Milosevic and Nastase confirmed their readiness to pursue the intensive development of political, parliamentary, economic, and cultural contacts and ties between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Romania on the basis of equality.

It was also noted that economic partners from the two countries had maintained the necessary level of contacts in spite of limitations due to anti-Yugoslav sanctions, and expect to resume cooperation and undertake new projects as soon as possible.

Nastase Supports End to Sanctions

LD1807122095 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1157 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Belgrade, July 18 (TANJUG)—Romania is in favor of the lifting of sanctions against Yugoslavia by the international community and of the country's return on international track, the speaker of the house of representatives of the Romanian parliament, Adrian Nastase, said.

Talking with the speaker of the Serbian parliament, Dragan Tomic, in Belgrade, Nastase assessed that sanctions are a major obstacle to the peaceful resolution of the crisis in the former Yugoslavia, the Serbian parliament information service said.

Nastase expressed his appreciation for the efforts made by the Serbian and Yugoslav leaderships for putting an end to the crisis as soon as possible and making peace prevail.

Tomic stressed that the lifting of sanctions was a precondition for ending the war in the former Yugoslavia.

The lifting of sanctions would discourage all militants, and prove the resolve of the international community to end the war in the Balkans finally, Tomic said.

Tomic pointed to the firm commitment of the Serbian and the Yugoslav leaderships to lasting peace, evident in its support to the contact group's peace plan.

Finding a solution to the crisis and making peace prevail in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is possible only by way of negotiations of the three interested parties, Tomic said.

Equal standards have to be applied. That is why the international community must be impartial and find a solution which will take into account the realistic and justified interests of all the parties to the conflict in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Tomic said.

The positive attitude of Romania to help the resolution of the Yugoslav crisis and the establishment of a lasting and fair peace was stressed at the talks.

Opposition Urges Examination of 'Biased' Media

LD1807132795 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1253 GMT 18 Jul 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Belgrade, 18 Jul (TANJUG)—Members of the Serbian Assembly's Committee for Culture and Information have forwarded to the Committee chairman an initiative for the convening of a session of the Committee by 1 August, which would examine broadcasts by Radio and Television Serbia.

At a news conference during a break of today's Assembly session, a group of opposition deputies said that Radio and Television Serbia's broadcasts were biased and unilateral, and that there was almost no air time given to present other political opinions.

It was said at the news conference that the following parties stand behind this initiative: Depos, the Democratic Party of Serbia, the Serbian Radical Party, and the Democratic Party of Vojvodina Hungarians.

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